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7 December 1982

SOUTH AND EAST ASIA REPORT

No. 1224

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FIJI ELECTION INVESTIGATION SLATED

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 13 Oct 82 p 28

[Article by Robert Keith-Reid]

[Text]

THE Government of Fiji has appointed a retired New Zealand High Court judge, Sir John White, to inquire into allegations of Australian, Russian and other outside interference in the general election last July.

There have been claims that both the Government and Opposition used foreign aid to try to win the election.

The Prime Minister, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, promised an inquiry immediately after his reappointment as Fiji's leader, but the appointment of Sir John earlier this week was made without fanfare.

Sir John, 70, a former New Zealand Solicitor-General, slipped in and out of Fiji quietly.

During his time in Suva, he was briefed by the Solicitor-General, Mr Qoriniasi Bale, but nothing has been said yet about how the inquiry will be conducted, or when.

Calls for a full inquiry have been strengthened by the statement of a magistrate that

he believes there was a plot to rig voting in the election, in which the ruling Alliance government narrowly retained power.

The magistrate, Mr Antony Amstell, convicted four Fijian women of charges of having voted illegally.

'Pawns'

The women said they had been approached by a man who persuaded them to go to polling stations and use slips issued in other women's names to vote for the Alliance.

Mr Amstell, one of several Britons attached to the Fiji magistracy, called on the Fiji police and the director of public prosecutions to find the man who persuaded the women to vote illegally.

He said the women were minor pawns, but that the implications of their cases, and several others to come up, were quite terrifying.

If there had been a planned scheme, it went without saying that the whole democratic process in the country had been undermined, he said.

The women were each fined \$40 and disqualified from voting for six years.

During the election, the Opposition leader, Mr Jai Ram Reddy, claimed that the Alliance had hired a team of Australian political strategists to devise a "dirty tricks" campaign against the NFP and its small Fijian party ally, the Western United Front.

He also questioned the circumstance under which a former Australian Broadcasting Commission current affairs producer, Mr Clive Speed, had been attached to the Fiji Ministry of Information under an Australian aid program.

Ratu Mara counter-charged that the National Federation Party colluded with left-wing elements in the ABC to show immediately before the election a program which, he said, was deliberately slanted to put the Alliance in a bad light.

The item was shown on the ABC's Four Corners program and more than 300 copies were distributed in Fiji by the Opposition in a bid to discredit the Alliance.

CSO: 4200/122

KHMERS PREFER HENG SAMRIN OVER KHMER ROUGE

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 Oct 82 p 2

[Text] **WASHINGTON — Son Sann, Prime Minister of Kampuchea's new resistance coalition, said on Friday that his countrymen prefer the Heng Samrin regime to his Khmer Rouge partners in the coalition.**

He told reporters here that, if forced to choose between the Hanoi-backed Heng Samrin government and the Khmer Rouge, which ruled brutally until ousted by Vietnamese-led forces in 1979, "the people will choose the Heng Semrin regime."

But he said most Khmers see the Democratic Kampuchea coalition formed last June between the communist Khmer Rouge and non-communist groups led by him and Prince Norodom Sihanouk as a genuine nationalist alternative to Heng Samrin's government.

Son Sann and Sihanouk, who is president of the coalition, were here

for a meeting with US Vice President George Bush to press the case for US financial aid.

But Son Sann avoided answering questions on whether they had obtained any commitments from Bush or Secretary of State George Shultz, whom they met in New York on Wednesday.

State Department spokesman Alan Romberg told reporters Shultz and Bush "indicated our moral support for the non-communist Kampuchians and expressed appreciation for Prince Sihanouk's and Prime Minister Son Sann's leadership."

But he said the US did not plan to give military

aid to the coalition and would not give any aid to the Khmer Rouge.

"Time is not working for the liberation movement, time is working for Heng Samrin and the Vietnamese," Son Sann said.

Calling Vietnam "an agent of Soviet hegemonism in Southeast Asia," he said he feared the Vietnamese would ultimately seek to annex Kampuchea.

Asked where the coalition would get weapons to arm its estimated 40,000 troops against some 200,000 Vietnamese, Son Sann said he planned to go to Peking next month, "and that is not for humanitarian aid." — Reuter

CSO: 4200/117

KHMER TROOPS HELD FOR ROBBERY

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Oct 82 p 3

[Text]

TAPHRAYA

THREE Khmer Rouge guerrillas were wounded and captured on Saturday while they were being pursued by Thai troops in this district of Prachin Buri, a high-ranking military field source said yesterday.

The chase began after the guerrillas attacked a Thai passenger bus on Friday, robbing the 20 passengers of about 50,000 baht in cash and valuables, the source said.

The source said one Thai Army private was seriously wounded during the clash between the guerrillas and the troops and is receiving treatment at a field hospital at the Khao I Dang holding centre.

The incident started on Friday evening when a group of about 15 Khmer Rouge guerrillas, armed with AK rifles and RPG launchers, crossed the Thai border and stopped a bus on a road between Ban Na Ngarm and Nong Samet, the source said.

After robbing the passengers the guerrillas

headed back for the Kampuchean border. Brief fighting erupted when the guerrillas opened fire on a pursuing Thai military unit. However, they managed to escape into Kampuchean territory.

The Army declared the border off-limits the next morning, sending more troops to clear the area of any intruders.

Thai troops found three wounded Khmer Rouge members and sent them to a Red Cross-run field hospital in Nong Samet.

During questioning the three said they were members of a Khmer Rouge force based opposite Ban Kok Taharn of Ta Phraya.

They said they had escaped from their base to prey on villagers travelling on buses along the border.

The source said field military authorities have reacted strongly to the attack, warning that all aid to the Kampucheans would be cut off if another robbery took place on Thai soil.

CSO: 4200/117

AGITATION, STRIDENCY ANALYZED; CONDITIONS TERMED ALARMING

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 7 Nov 82 p 4

[Commentary by Shamsher Ali]

[Text]

WHY is it that so bland a politician as Mustafa Jatoi who has been fairly conciliatory and cooperative in all these Martial Law years, is now openly indulging in strident declarations and protests? How is it that so quiescent a personality as Hafeez Pirzada is now calling for agitation? And wonder of wonders, what is impelling Mian Tufail whose Jamaat has little reason to complain of the military regime, to make critical noises, every now and then? Above all, what has forced the most violently disparate parties to function together in the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy?

These are some of the queries that assail every thinking citizen nowadays and compel him to ponder their meaning and significance. There are simple, straightforward answers, of course. The politicians, critics would trot out the handy argument that having spent most of the past five years in the wilderness, they are hungry for power, and it would be valid, but only up to a point. For when one examines the politicians' loud thinking, the harshness of their arguments and the desperate urgency of their pleas, the hungry-for-power reasoning loses most of its potency.

The known political figures all betray acute signs of fright about the general drift which they fear is leading ineluctably towards chaos and anarchy. And if one bears in mind their socio-economic antece-

dents, it is not hard to appreciate their mounting concern. For they seem to be fully conscious of the danger that the deluge would sweep aside not just their public standing which would be bad enough but also their sizeable possessions.

It was quite obviously this realisation of common danger which had persuaded bitter antagonists to set aside their mutual hostilities and pool their political resources and energies for self-preservation. It is this mutuality of basic interests that has enabled the MRD to hold together and endure despite the usual attempts at disruption, for nearly two years. And all these worthies do believe that if the political process were revived and elections held, they may still be able to handle the situation and so stem the tide.

There are many thoughtful and experienced observers of the national scene who feel that it may be already too late, because nearly all the institutions have been enfeebled beyond repair. It is, however, a matter of calculation and the politicians seem to reckon that they can still make a go of it and diffuse disruptive trends.

The point, as far as the politicians are concerned, is not whether their evaluations are correct or not. It lies rather in the absence of choice. A return to the 1973 Constitution and the reinduction of a representative government is the only option open to them. That is the one chance they see that may allow them to preserve themselves.

Another factor contributing to the politicians' desperation appears to be the realisation that they are rapidly becoming irrelevant. Since most of them have lost their credibility, they see in Begum Nusrat Bhutto their one and only remaining trump-card. But they

find that time is running out. As a matter of fact, a shrewd observer like Akbar Bugti has already pronounced their political demise with the assertion that now new players would play a very different kind of game.

Although Bugti's analysis of the new situation may not be very palatable, it was by no means original nor wholly new. After all, the politicians have been acting together to prevent, if they could, the very development that Bugti asserts has already taken place. So the difference is only over the degree of erosion and not about the prevalence of the blight.

A dispassionate examination of the situation would clearly reveal anarchical trends for which politicians cannot be blamed at least not directly. Actually, most of them have been abiding by the Martial Law and quite a few had even graced the Cabinet at one time. Besides, the authorities have been very vigorous in preserving political law and order. Moreover, the creation of anarchy does not pay traditional political parties as the PNA found out to its cost. And when a political organisation sets out to undermine the established order, it does so for the purpose of bringing about a revolution whereas in this country none of the parties are even remotely revolutionary.

There is of course the 'Al-Zulfikar' organisation and, apparently, other terrorist groups about whose existence and activities the Minister of Interior keeps providing frequent bulletins. But rather than disarm the politicians, this factor has lent considerable weight to their urgent demand for the restoration of a representative government. They argue quite convincingly that when the people are deprived of their fundamental rights and denied the means of normal protest they resort to violent measures.

It is sometimes contended that if the people really did not approve of the regime they would have come out in the streets. It may

sound attractive and convincing to those who use it for asserting legitimacy. Quite apart from the fact that draconian application of ukase has proved a very effective deterrent to public protest, the more frightening aspect of this argument is its pernicious logic. For its plain and highly provocative implication is that the regime would continue until ousted through violence. Is it any wonder then that some people have responded with terrorism?

One does not require any special insight into patterns of human behaviour to know that when the rights and aspirations of any people are suppressed by force or the threat of force, a time comes when they turn to whatever weapon is available to redress the intolerable situation. This has been true in all times and at all places, and there is plenty of evidence all over the world right now to underscore its validity.

It is a law of challenge and response and there is no way Pakistan can opt out, anyway not for long. Suppression and revolt are virtually the two sides of the same coin. The two keeps on spiralling in their intensity till one day suddenly everything falls apart. This is a prospect too frightening to contemplate for any nation, all the more so for one which has not been allowed to jell together as one and is situated in a cockpit of Big-Power contention.

It is the awareness of these terrifying prospects that has driven most politicians into a collective huddle. One may have serious reservations about the competence and integrity of this or that politician, but there is no doubt the course of action they prescribe for getting the country back on the right track is eminently desirable. It may well be that few of them will survive the cleansing of a constitutional exercise. But it is far better for everyone that "the new players" may emerge through the normal political process than through an anarchic blood-letting.

SAFDAR GIVES ASSURANCE ON ELECTIONS

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 6 Nov 82 p 8

[Text] LAHORE, Nov. 5--Khwaja Mohammad Safdar, Chairman Federal Council, has said that the President and the Federal Cabinet will decide about elections in the country.

Talking to The Muslim here today he said that he was convinced that elections would certainly be held but when they would be held "only those in power can decide". He said that he had always advocated for early elections but he could not expedite the process. When reminded that the President had recently said that the circumstances were still not conducive to the holding of elections, Khwaja Safdar said, "If President has said this it is correct and I am not in a position to comment on what President has stated".

Referring to the working of the Federal Council, the Shoora Chairman said that it was satisfactory. But at the same time, he said, it was a nominated institution having limited powers of recommending or advising the government on certain matters. The Federal Council, he continued, could not be expected to act as an elected assembly and he had never pleaded for giving it the authority of an elected parliament. "Many problems will crop up and many complications will result if the nominated Federal Council is raised to the status of an assembly".

About the reports that the Provincial Governments were considering expansion in their respective Councils on the pattern of the Federal Council, he said that he had heard about such a proposal but was not in a position to say whether the proposal was taken up in the Cabinet meeting.

To a question Khwaja Safdar said that the members of the Federal Council were not afraid of anything during the recently concluded session. And if to some one an atmosphere to cause fear prevailed in the session it must be his own impression.

Referring to the task of the committee entrusted with recommending steps for Islamising various departments, he said its task was "gigantic". The delay was inevitable and it would take "time to accomplish its obligation". He said that the committee's last meeting was postponed because its chairman Justice Bashiruddin was not enjoying good health. It was meeting now on Nov. 13.

CSO: 4200/119

LAHORE MRD VOICES ELECTION DEMANDS

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 8 Nov 82 p 8

[Text]

LAHORE, Nov. 7: The convenor and general secretary of the MRD Lahore have demanded the holding of elections under the 1973 Constitution, the transfer of power to the elected representatives of the people, and the lifting of Martial Law in the country.

Addressing a joint press conference here yesterday evening, they said the establishment of the MRD had proved that political workers and leaders could unite for achieving national objectives.

They would continue their peaceful struggle for acceptance of their political demands, they said. They said the demands of political parties which had not joined MRD formally were the same.

As for holding of elections and restoration of the 1973 Constitution, they said all political leaders were in its favour. They said the whole nation was concerned about the health of Begum Nusrat Bhutto and demanded that she be immediately sent abroad for treatment.

They demanded the release of Miss Benazir Bhutto, Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan, Air Marshal (Retd)

Asghar Khan, Maulana Fazalur Rehman, Sheikh Khafil Ahmad, Raja Zulqarnain, Rana Farooq and other political workers. The release of Abdul Hafiz Lakho, Abdul Malik Iftikharul Hassan Gillani and Mian Sher Alam, Advocates, and journalist Mohammad Idrees-Butt was also demanded.

Meanwhile, organisation of the MRD at the city and zonal level has been completed. Chaudhry Ghulam Qadir has been appointed general secretary of the MRD Lahore, while Afzal Mufti, Chaudhary Abdur Rashid, Advocate, Hafiz Mohammad Idrees and Mohammad Islam Khan will be the joint secretaries. Khawaja Izhar, Tahir Aziz and Aftab Ahmad Javed have been appointed information secretary, finance secretary and office secretary respectively.

Besides Sheikh Taj Din (PPP), Mohammad Alam Bhatti (PDP), Atiqur Rehman (MKP), Zafar Iqbal (PPP) and Chaudhry Mohammad Saleem have been appointed general secretaries of the five zones.

Endorsing the decision of the central MRD to observe Restoration of Constitution Day on Nov. 10 they said the Lahore MRD would also observe the day.

CSO: 4200/120

PARTY ROUNDTABLE CONFERENCE

Karachi DAWN in English 8 Nov 82 p 12

[Text]

Some 35 persons representing 16 or 17 defunct political parties will attend the round-table conference in Karachi in 'a week's time', it was learnt yesterday.

The RTC convener, Maulana Shah Ahmad Noorani, President of the defunct Jamiat Ulema-i-Pakistan, yesterday had either got mailed or delivered in person the invitations to the Presidents or Acting Presidents of the concerned parties. The party chiefs have been given the option to bring along with them one nominee each.

The venue will be either a hotel or a public hall. Sources said it will be a 'sort of get-together', and the RTC discussions will be 'like a table-talk'. Sources said: "Tables will be reserved and the procedure devised is that at a time only one invitee will talk, while others listen".

Khan Abdul Wali Khan, an eminent leader of the defunct National Democratic Party (NDP), will be

the only person attending the proposed RTC as a special invitee. "We have extended to him an invitation in view of his special status", the sources explained.

They said further that if Mr Yusuf Haroon happened to be available in Karachi he would be requested to attend as another special invitee.

The sponsors hope that discussions on the opening day of the RTC will be 'conclusive', but, if at all necessary, the conference may be extended for another day.

The RTC is expected to formulate a 'line of action' which, according to the sources, will be "in the form of a call for fixing a deadline by which the Government should commit itself to hold the general election."

PPI adds: All component parties of MRD have received invitation to attend the RTC, according to Mr Fatehyab Ali Khan, current convener of MRD and President of Pakistan Mazdoor Kissan Party.

CSO: 4200/107

DIVISION WITH TEHRIK-I-ISTIQLAL, OTHER PROBLEMS REPORTED.

Karachi DAWN in English 9 Nov 82 p 16

[Text] Nov 8--The defunct Tehrik-i-Istiqlal of retired Air Marshal Asghar Khan appears to be in the throes of another serious crisis, this time on the question of expulsion of its Information Secretary, Mr Nafees Siddiqui, from the party.

Barely two months ago the party found itself sharply divided over the issue of establishment of a full-fledged secretariat for the MRD and it was with great difficulty that the organisation succeeded in averting a split in its ranks. The local Tehrik circles, however, believe that the party action against Mr Nafees Siddiqui has only precipitated the issue once again.

Although Mian Mahmud Ali Kasuri, who made it known, barely a couple of days ago, that he was no longer in a position to lead the party, because of his failing health, did not issue any formal statement over the action taken against Mr Siddiqui nor did he express his regrets over the development.

Important Factors

Knowledgeable circles, however, believe that the absence of the leadership of Air Marshal Retired Asghar Khan, because of his continued detention and the non-availability of the guidance of Mian Kasuri, because of his illness, are the two important factors that have deprived the Tehrik of a mature leadership which could be acceptable to various groups within the organisation, posing a threat to its very future meanwhile, talking to newsmen, Mr Eitezaz Ahsan, a member of the National Working Committee of the defunct party, took strong exception to the fact that such a harsh and severe action had been taken against Mr Nafees, without giving him an opportunity for personal hearing or appointing any independent committee in the matter.

He maintained that a duly elected and permanent office-bearer of the National organisation had been stripped of the very basic membership of the party by a "nominated and acting office-bearer".

Mr Ahsan said the end of the justice required that whenever a severe penalty was imposed the respondent was given a second show cause notice. No such notice appeared to have been given to Mr Siddiqui, he added.

He said it was quite obvious that the matter would feature in the next meeting of the Centra- Working Committee.

JUI THREATENS MOVEMENT FOR LEADER'S RELEASE

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 7 Nov 82 p 8

[Text]

PESHAWAR, Nov.6: Maulana Ashraf Ali Qureshi, Nazim Ala Jamia Ashrafia and a leader of defunct Jamiat-e-Ulema-e-Islam (Fazlur Rehman Group) has urged upon the government to release Maulana Fazlur Rehman son of late Maulana Mufti Mahmud to enable him to participate in the tentative big conference being held in Dera Ismail Khan on Nov.19 and 20 in commemoration of his great father.

Addressing a news conference at Peshawar Press Club this morning, the Jamiat-e-Ulema Islam leader expressed deep concern over the deteriorating law and order situation in the country and called for the early elections under 1973 Constitution.

He expressed his doubt over the government's intentions towards enforcement of Islamic order and said if the government was sincere than why the task was not accomplished even after over five years

period. He alleged that delaying tactics in this regard were being used only to carry on the reigns of the country.

He said those who had real love and dedication for Islam were afraid that this attitude of the government would adversely affect public opinion about Islamic injunctions and enforcement. He recalled the unjustified action of Provincial Auqaf Department against the prominent religious institution, Jamia Ashrafia, and said the ulema and the teachers of a religious institution, were harassed for political reasons.

Replying to a question about reported division in the defunct Jamiat-e-Ulema Islam, Maulana Ashraf Ali Qureshi expressed confidence that both the sides would be united again in near future.

He said if Maulana Fazlur Rehman was not released upto Nov. 30, 1982 his party would launch a country-wide civil disobedience movement and for this purpose a meeting of the Central Committee of the party was being held at Lahore on Nov.8.—PPI

CSO: 4200/119

SUGAR INDUSTRY SAID TO BE HEADING FOR CRISIS

Karachi DAWN in English 9 Nov 82 pp 1, 16

[Article by Izharul Hasan Burney]

[Text]

Pakistan's surplus sugar stocks soared to an all-time high of about 335,000 tons (worth about Rs. 2,345 billion) as the new crushing season began last month.

As export is ruled out on account of our uncompetitive price, the Federal Government is now contemplating a series of steps to handle the huge surplus with a view to avert a crisis, well placed sources said.

In the first place, sources said, the Federal Government has decided to build up a "reserve" of 200,000 tons.

Out of the remaining 135,000 tons, Sind's share will be 75,000 tons and Punjab's 60,000 tons. The two provinces will make arrangements for the disposal of these stocks.

It is learnt that these provinces are now busy working out the modalities of the disposal of the allotted stocks.

Options under consideration are open auction at "upset or reserved price", these sources said.

The matter is getting the "highest priority" as the fresh output of the sugar mills will start flowing out soon and is bound to create storage problems.

The other aspect is the blocking of huge funds both on account of the 200,000 tons proposed "reserve" as well as the amount involved in the stocks earmarked for sales.

It is learnt that both provinces will be absolved from all financial involvement and the financing of the entire surplus of 335,000 will be undertaken by the Federal Government.

The Federal Government, on its part, will seek funds for this purpose from the outlays for State Trading, sources said.

Break-up of funds involved in tackling the problem on the proposed lines will be as under:

Total surplus 335,000 tons worth 2,345 million; Reserve 200,000 tons worth Rs 1,400 million; stock for disposal through auction 135,000 tons worth Rs 945 million; stocks at the disposal of Punjab for auction 60,000 tons worth Rs 420 million, and at the disposal of Sind 75,000 tons worth Rs 515 million.

(The above cost has been worked out on the basis of the ex-factory price of Rs. 7,873 per ton for the new mills and Rs. 6,801 per tons for the old mills).

Agricultural experts believe that production in 1982-83 will at least remain the same as last year, and unless ways are found to dispose of the existing surplus, the stocks would double by the end of the 1982-83 crushing season.

In so far as Sind is concerned, sugarcane production last year was 7.4 million tons as against five million tons a year earlier. This is likely to be slightly higher this year but shall not certainly be less, experts said.

Consequently, last year's sugar production of 585,000 tons must be easily achieved this year again, they said. It compared with 360,000 tons in 1980-81.

In Sind, there are at present 12 sugar mills. Three more are being installed and may be commissioned by 1984-85.

Quick action

Unless the Government moves in extremely fast and takes very specific measures, the country's efforts for reaching the present stage in sugarcane production and sugar industry will be completely annulled, experts said.

Loss of time may in fact plunge the industry into a crisis such as the one witnessed in the sixties when standing crop on thousands of acres had to be burnt by the zamindars, they reminded.

While welcoming the views of Dr Mahbubul Haq, Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, for sugar-based industries, they said the situation was worsening faster than such long-term measures could tackle.

Agricultural economists wondered that while there was such a huge surplus, the Government had not thought it fit to de-ration sugar or raise the quotas which would inevitably raise sugar consumption.

On the other hand, they said, the ban on inter-provincial and inter-regional movement of sugar continues with the result that while there are surpluses huge in Sind and the Punjab, some other regions are complaining of acute shortages.

In this connection they cited the example of the NWFP where, according to recent reports, sugar price jumped by Rs. 135 per bag in Peshawar market in mid-October.

The shortages in the Northern Areas and the remote valleys of Swat, Kaghan etc. are still more pronounced, they pointed out.

Yet another aspect was the question of new dimensions for the sugar industry to enable it to produce high quality export material, as well as the necessity of utilising the by-products like bagasse.

Options

Also there was the necessity of reviewing the ban on 'khandsari' and 'gur' industry which until the ban was a major consumer of sugarcane in the country, they said.

The ban could at least be withdrawn in the districts/tehsils where the mills were not in a position to fully consume the crop, they added.

Another potential was the Iranian market in view of Tehran's preference for trade through land route on account of the situation in the sea lanes of Gulf, they observed.

But most important was the need to study the economics of the Pakistani sugar industry vis-a-vis the other sugar producing countries particularly neighbouring India.

The question was how to regulate the cost of production at each stage so that Pakistani sugar was not double the international price, particularly in view of the fact that we claim to have the advantage of cheap labour.

Part of this study would inevitably be the fullest utilisation of the by-products which are going waste at present and are having a very adverse effect on the economics of the entire industry, they pointed out.

REFUGEE PROBLEM: RETURN ADVOCATED

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 6, 7 Nov 82

[Article by Minhaj Barna]

[Part 1--6 Nov 82 p 4]

[Text]

Pakistan and Afghanistan go into a fresh round of talks in New York shortly on a settlement of the Afghanistan problem carrying some momentum from the indirect Geneva talks under United Nations mediation in June -- and with the promise of at least a tentative outline of a package deal emerging.

Although there is no fixed agenda for the coming talks -- probably in October during the U.N. General Assembly session -- the basis for discussion is the four-point compromise drafted by the US's Geneva mediator, Diego Cordovez, and accepted by both sides at the June parley in what was seen as a promising demonstration of flexibility.

This hinged on:

- * Arrangements for the repatriation of up to 3 million Afghan refugees from Pakistan;
- * Creation of an acceptable atmosphere to facilitate their return;
- * International guarantees of non-interference in Afghan affairs;
- * Withdrawal of all foreign troops from Afghanistan.

Dropped from the original agenda was Pakistan's insistence on "the right of self-determination for the Afghan people". This, coupled with Afghanistan's agreement to discuss the withdrawal of Soviet troops, apparently figured in Cordovez's assessment that both sides

had made "important political concessions."

Although Pakistan's Foreign Minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, later denied making any political concessions, Islamabad's willingness for even indirect talks with the Babrak Karmel government was the most important sign of flexibility.

Pakistan also acceded to discussion of the issue of non-interference in Afghan affairs under international guarantees. Its keenness for a political settlement was further underlined by the fact that Yaqub went to Geneva despite Iran's refusal to join the talks on the grounds that the Afghan resistance was not represented.

The key issue is the return of the refugees in Pakistan, which is pivotal to the other agenda items. Islamabad argues that without the withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan there can be no repatriation of refugees. Kabul insists that withdrawal can only take place after "armed intervention from across the border" is halted, and ties this to the need for international guarantees.

Pakistan's agreement to talks on non-interference, takes a step towards meeting this condition. Moscow has repeatedly accused Pakistan of harbouring and training dissidents before sending them back to Afghanistan.

Several factors may explain Pakistan's adoption of a more realistic approach to the problem. These are:

- * Recognition that it is not only dealing with the Karmel government but with a Super-Power

- presence on its borders;
- * The view that the United States has tacitly accepted the extension of the Soviet presence to Afghanistan;
 - * Realisation that unless a settlement is achieved, Pakistan must deal with the growing burden of the refugee problem indefinitely.
 - * Hard evidence that resistance within Afghanistan is weakening under the combined force of the Karmel government military and the Soviet troops.

In support of the view that the U.S. is privately resigned to the Soviet presence in Afghanistan, informed sources argue that the Geneva talks would not have taken place without the tacit approval of both the Super-Powers.

Despite widely conflicting reports on the military and political situation in Afghanistan, it is clear there has been a sharp decline in the level of armed resistance. Western diplomatic sources have admitted the total collapse of the rebel strongholds in the Panjsher and Samangan regions in the

north. Kabul has now established youth militia in these areas.

The Karmel government has also launched an attempt to woo the tribal and religious leaders, reportedly shelving radical reforms of customary law introduced previously by Noor Mohammad Taraki. Karmel has established a Ministry of Tribes and Nationalities to replace the Ministry of Frontiers, apparently aiming to win support from these groups. A plan is under way to divide the country into administrative units on ethnic and linguistic lines. Kabul has also restored compulsory religious education at primary school level and compulsory technical education has been introduced at senior schools.

Meanwhile, Cordovez will be working out details of a settlement which could bring about a phased withdrawal of Soviet troops simultaneously with the gradual return of Afghan refugees from Pakistan, in an arrangement backed by formal guarantees by the U.S., the Soviet Union and other Security Council members, as well as by neighbouring states.—STWM

[Part 2--7 Nov 82 p 5]

[Text]

Pakistan is now host to the largest single refugee population in the world, with an estimated 3-million Afghan exiles — and it is groaning under the burden. Health problems overtax the costly and extensive relief operations; local tolerance is being replaced by resentment at social disruption; and the military government is under fire over its handling of the political issues.

Scores of tent villages are now scattered over the mountainous Northwestern Frontier Province (NWFP) and Baluchistan. The exodus began as a trickle in 1973, when a few hundred Afghan refugees arrived in Pakistan after Sardar Daud overthrew Zahir Shah's rule and declared Afghanistan a republic. Their ranks swelled after the overthrow of Sardar Daud by Noor Mohammad Taraki, leader of the Khalq faction of the Marxist People's Democratic Party. At the time Babrak Karmel took over and the Soviet troops moved in, there were about 25,000 Afghan refugees in Pakistan more than 18,000 of them in the NWFP.

The trickle became a flood as conflict broke out. By March

this year there were over 2 million refugees registered in NWFP and about 550,000 in Baluchistan — and the exodus continues. In recent interview, General Ziaul Haq said the total had topped 3 million. About 45 per cent of aid is provided by the Pakistani government, with the rest coming from a host of UN agencies and voluntary help programmes. The cost is biting deep — at an expenditure of Rs 150 (about US\$15) per refugee per month, it has soared to an estimated US\$15 million daily.

The relief programmes are at full stretch, and battling to handle growing health problems. A high incidence of tuberculosis has been reported in refugee camps. Clean water is scarce in both affected provinces, particularly Baluchistan. NWFP authorities have launched several major water supply projects in response. But refugees in the province's Nasir Bagh camp, only about 16km from Peshawar, have to drink canal water. A doctor working in the camp said gastroenteritis was rife among the children.

On the health front, the NWFP authorities, aided by the UN High Commission on Refugees has provided a drug dispensary for every tent village, and 31 mobile clinics serve 240 refugee camps. Baluchistan has 20 dispensaries and

10 mobile units serving 34 camps.

The massive influx has affected life in the two provinces. While people sympathise with the plight of their Afghan 'brothers-in-faith' the initial euphoric welcome in the best spirit of Muslim brotherhood has faded. Clashes have been reported between locals and refugees over the use of grazing fields and timber. In Baluchistan, where pasture land is sparse, local people charge the refugees have completely denuded several forests.

Baluchistan and the NWFP have moved to compensate for damage done by the refugees and their livestock, with large afforestation schemes. Education arrangements for refugee children include a primary school for every tent village. The provincial authorities have also opened vocational training centres offering courses in skills ranging from carpet weaving to blacksmithing.

Pakistan has not imposed residential restrictions on the refugees. An estimated 100,000 are living in the major centres, mainly Karachi in Sind province. The more affluent have bought homes and commercial properties. They are willing to pay higher rents than average, and real estate is enjoying a boom as a result. Rents and rates have soared in the provincial cities Peshawar and Quetta.

Wealthy Afghans evaded the law barring foreign nationals from buying property without federal permission, by bribing officials to issue them with national identity

cards. Local tension ran so high that the Governor of Baluchistan, General Rahimuddin Khan, ordered a purge of Afghan refugees in Quetta. It netted only a few pavement hawkers.

The military government's handling of the political question is opposed by all political parties except the Jamaat-i-Islami and a couple of other rightwing groups. Begum Nusrat Bhutto, chairman of the People's Party, and retired Air Marshall Asghar Khan, leader of the Tehrik-e-Istiqlal, have publicly urged the government to recognise and deal with the Kabul government.

The only political party which has been allowed to work openly among the refugees is the Jamaat-i-Islami. This has caused resentment among other parties and led to accusations of government favouritism. Opposition parties feel there should be no role for political groups in relief work unless all parties are allowed to participate.

Meanwhile, Baluch leaders fear that if refugees continue to pour into the province - which has a population of 3-million - they will upset the balance between the Baluchi and those of Pakistan origin; roughly between the left and the right. And because the majority of the refugees are Pakhtuns, the situation could even turn the Baluch into a minority in their own province. Akbar Bugti, a former governor of the province, said the refugee problem was really a Pakhtun problem.—STWM

CSO: 4200/120

TEACHERS' DETENTION CALLED UNJUSTIFIED

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 6 Nov 82 p 4

[Text]

ALMOST one year ago, three teachers of the Quaid-i-Azam University were arrested in Islamabad for having been allegedly involved in distributing subversive literature. They include Mr. Jamil Umar, Lecturer in the Computer Science Department, Mr. Tariq Ehsan, Lecturer in the Pakistan Studies Department, and Dr. M. Salim, Assistant Professor of Chemistry. Since their arrest these teachers have been interned without any charges having been framed against them. As pointed out by the Executive Committee of the Academic Staff Association (ASA) of the Quaid-i-Azam University, it seems that after one full year of investigations, the FIA has not been able to present any concrete evidence regarding their so-called "crime". This mysterious delay on the part of the authorities to charge the teachers formally so that the due process of law can be initiated, is difficult to understand. In some cases, arrests are followed with night long trials and sentences are pronounced literally within 24 hours; on the other there are cases like the present one in which the people are kept in judicial remand for a long period of time without being formally charged.

The exact nature of the 'subversive' literature that these teachers are alleged to have possessed is not known. Amongst the police bonanza are books on international law and such best sellers as Solzhenitsyn's Cancer Ward. The definition of what is and what is not subversive appears to be rather broad and dubious. While nobody can condone genuine anti-state activities, it should be appreciated that in an institution of higher learning like a University, there are bound to be all shades of political opinions and beliefs. A certain amount of intellectual and moral tolerance has to be displayed for the individual proclivities of our young intelligentsia. Individual opinions and beliefs and varying inclinations should not *ipso facto* be regarded as subversion. However, if the authorities feel justified in having charged the teachers with subversive activities before the nation, it is incumbent upon them to give them a free, fair and speedy trial which is the basic right of every citizen of Pakistan.

CSO: 4200/119

LAW MINISTRY SAYS IDEOLOGY COUNCIL A DRAIN

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 6 Nov 82 p 6

[Article by Shamsul Islam Naz]

[Text]

FAISALABAD, Nov. 5: The Federal Law Ministry has deemed the efforts of the Council of Islamic Ideology a luxury and a drain on the national exchequer.

This was stated in the course of a 'stinker' addressed to the CII alleging that its recommendations were just a repetition of the recommendations of existing rules or the observations of the Law Ministry and, hence, an effort in futility.

The letter was sent by the Law Division to the council in reply to a number of amendments recently suggested by the council towards Islamisation of a number of laws covered by PPC Vol I (1836-1871).

It may be recalled that since its installation, the CII has been engaged in the task of bringing Pakistan society into unison with Islamic ideology. The council has accordingly been sending a number of recommendations to the federal government.

On Nov. 12, 1981, President Ziaul Haq addressed the members of the CII and gave it following guidelines:

- The council would draw a sketch for the setting up a 'Daarul Iftaa' (House of Islamic Injunctions).

- Enquiries would be made under Articles 220(A) (C) of the Constitution which would be channelised through the Cabinet Division, wherein a guideline would be issued by CMLA Secretariat.

- Four or five members CII would be appointed on a full time

basis.

- Prior to their promulgation, the drafts of all statutes would be put up before the CII.

- The council would keep an eye on fresh legislation to ensure that newly promulgated laws were being implemented in letter and spirit and to locate impediments in their implementation, if any.

- The council would send a summary of its recommendations to the President through the Ministry of Religious Affairs. However, one copy of such summaries could be sent to the President directly as and when necessary.

The tussle started at the inception of the CII, but it reached a climax when the Law Division kicked up a controversy last year when the CII chairman asked the Law Secretary to submit one of the reports of the council to the President.

Recently, when the CII sent a comprehensive report to the Ministry of Law on Islamisation of laws contained in PPC Vol. I (1836-1871) for onward transmission to the President, the Law Division sent these recommendations back to the CII along with the comment that 'the report is just publicity material and does not contain any serious matter requiring consideration by the government.'

After a protracted discourse in respect of number of CII recommendations, the Law Division claimed that these were just a 'repetition' and advised the CII to 'refrain from repeating the costly luxury in respect of remaining volumes of the code.'

WHEAT AID FOR REFUGEES ARRIVES

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 6 Nov 82 p 6

[Text]

KARACHI, Nov. 5: 15,000 metric tons consignment of wheat donated jointly by 10 member nations of the European Economic Community (EEC) as humanitarian aid for the Afghan refugees was yesterday handed over to the Government of Pakistan.

Mr. Mogen Prehn, Charge D' Affaires at the Danish Embassy in Islamabad, on behalf of the EEC, formally handed over the wheat consignment to Col. M. A. Razzak Khan Mirza, acting Chief Commissioner for Afghan refugees.

In a brief speech on the occasion, Mr. Mogen Prehn, said that the 15,000 ton wheat consignment which was being handed over today represented the first instalment of a total 50,000 tons of wheat, which is being donated by the EEC for the Afghan refugees. He said the "Enormous number of Afghan refugees who had been forced to leave their homes and take shelter in Pakistan represented a very complex problem".

He said the EEC member countries supported endeavours being made to resolve the situation arising out of the events in Afghanistan in accordance with United Nations resolutions on the subject.

He voiced the hope that the Afghan refugees would be able to return to their homes as soon as possible. However, till that happened it was responsibility of the whole world to help in looking after the Afghan refugees and

providing them with humanitarian assistance. The main burden in taking care of the refugees was being shouldered by Pakistan, he added.

Replying, Col. M.A. Razzak Khan Mirza, Acting Chief Commissioner for Afghan refugees, said that about 2.8 million Afghan refugees who had taken temporary shelter in Pakistan represented the largest single concentration of refugees in the world today".

He said the Afghan refugees were not a problem for Pakistan alone, but this question was one which concerned the entire world.

He said Pakistan was doing its utmost to look after the Afghan refugees, with help and timely assistance from friendly countries, including the EEC member states, and such organisations as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the World Food Programme.

Meanwhile, the Federal Republic of Germany has provided Rs.265 million assistance to Afghan refugees through different channel.

This was disclosed Dr. Walter Froewis, Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany while talking to PPI, during the EEC wheat handing over ceremony at Karachi.

Out of this, he said Rs.200 million were given through international agencies like World Food Programme. The remaining Rs.65 million was given through bilateral arrangement between Pakistan government and the Federal Republic of Germany. The assistance through bilateral channel consisted of tents, cloths, foods and medicines, he added.—APP/PPI

HIGH-POWERED COMMITTEES TO ALLOCATE ENERGY

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 7 Nov 82 p 8

[Article by A. Hafeez Khan]

[Text] The Federal Government are understood to have appointed a high-powered committee to examine the pros and cons for the fixation of priorities in respect of allocating the supply of natural gas to various industries as fuel and also as feed-stock to fertiliser industry.

The appointment of the high-powered committee has come in the wake of growing complaints from the existing as well as upcoming industries that short supply of gas is impeding expansion in industrial production and causing unanticipated delays in the implementation of new industrial projects.

The implementation of newly-sanctioned phosphatic fertiliser projects in particular, is stated to be facing long postponements due to non-issuance of No-Objection Certificates from the Federal Ministry of Fuel and Power for new connections. It may be mentioned that in view of the paucity of natural gas supplies under the existing compression and distribution capacities of gas selling companies, almost all the new industrial projects, specially the fertiliser and cement manufacturing projects, are sanctioned subject to the availability of natural gas and power connections at the proposed locations. And the availability or otherwise of these utilities are examined, and No-Objection Certificates issued by the Federal Ministry of Fuel, Power and Natural Resources and the various utility organisations.

The paucity of natural gas is stated to be causing a slow-down

in the promotion of fertiliser projects. The country is deficit in the production of phosphatic fertiliser, the demand for which, is placed around 400,000 Nutrient tons but the existing production capacity is in the region of 88,000 N. tons while actual production was low around 58,000 N. tons in 1980-81. Thus the demand for phosphatic fertiliser is being met, for the most part, through imports which were to the extent of 280,000 N. tons in 1980-81 involving huge amounts of foreign exchange expenditure.

Three fertiliser projects sanctioned by the government about a year back are stated to have not yet received NOC from the relevant Federal Ministry and utility agencies for gas connections, and consequently, the process of implementation of these projects has ground to a halt.

Recently, four new projects, envisaging establishment of facilities in different locations of the country, to manufacture phosphatic fertiliser, have also been sanctioned by the government. But these sanctions too are subject to the availability of natural gas.

COAL

With a view to giving top priority to supply of natural gas as feed-stock to fertiliser industry, the High-Powered Committee, is understood to have come to the decision that all cement plants and power-generating units in the country should be switched over from natural gas to use of coal. If this decision becomes a concrete reality, natural gas will be available in com-

fortable quantities to other industries in general and fertiliser industry in particular.

According to official statistics, power generation accounts for the largest share in the consumption of gas. The Power sector consumed 29% of total gas sales during July 1981 and March 1982 which how-largest share in the consumption of gas. The Power sector consumed 29% of total gas sales during July 1981 and March 1982 which however showed decline from 34% of the previous comparable period. The share of cement industry also fell to 10% during 1981-82 compared with 11% in 1980-81. This shows that if substantial reduction is effected in the consumption of gas in power generating and cement producing units, a larger share will be available to fertiliser and other industries. Last year, fertiliser industry accounted for 26% of total gas consumption, increasing from the preceding year's 21 per cent.

According to a study, the present high prices of fuel oil have brought coal almost at par in cost with the fuel oil in so far power generation is concerned. However, coal will not be able to compete cost-wise with natural gas even though the price of the latter has been substantially increased during the past two years. Insofar as the cement industry is concerned, the cost escalation resulting from switching over from gas to coal may be adjusted by scaling down the present high rate of excise duty. In the case of power generations through coal, the cost escalation may be quite considerable.

PILOT PROJECTS PLANNED BY SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL

Karachi DAWN in English 8 Nov 82 p 4

[Text]

LAHORE, Nov 7: A five-year plan of the Pakistan Council of Scientific and Industrial Research will be given final shape by the end of December this year. The 1983-88 plan will be worth Rs 500 to 600 million and about one per cent of the G.N.P. will be specified for research and development.

This was stated by the Chairman, PCSIR, M. Aslam, while talking to PPI here on Friday.

He said special emphasis would be given on strengthening the existing research facilities in 16 different fields (disciplines). Obsolete and outdated scientific tools and equipment would be replaced by new ones and various new pilot projects would be started during the plan period, he added.

Task forces would be set up to promote biogas technology, solar dehydration, manufacture of carpet machines in the Northern Areas to increase the income of people living there. Moreover, arrangements would be made to supply purified drinking water to rural areas, he said.

Laboratory

Mr Aslam said a full-fledged PCSIR laboratory would be set up in Quetta at a cost of about Rs 50 million. With the establishment of this laboratory all the provincial capitals of the country would have one laboratory each of their own, he said.

Answering a question about achievements of the PCSIR so far, Mr Aslam said, PCSIR had developed rapid hardening cement which was of tremendous use during the war days.

Clarifying the point, he said in case a runway was damaged by en-

emy's bombardment or any other reason, rendering it completely unsuitable for planes' use, the application of this cement would restore the runway to normalcy in half an hour. A pilot plan, with a half-ton per day production capacity, had already been set up in the PCSIR, Lahore, he added.

Beverages

This gypsum-based cement might be used within two years of manufacturing date. Regarding research in food technology, he said efforts were being made to make sugarcane juice a beverage and that research in this direction was "at an advanced stage."

The PCSIR had already succeeded in evolving substitutes of Seven-Up, Coca-Cola and Fanta. New beverages with guava, apple and mango juice were also being developed, he stated.

Mr Aslam said the PCSIR was developing necessary equipment to convert fresh fruit into dry powder, maintaining its nutritive value as well as flavour.

With the evolution of this technique, the estimated 30 per cent wastage of fruits would be eliminated. The PCSIR, he said, would supply the converters to rural areas at cheap rates to village folk.

Mr Aslam claimed that adoption of only sugar technology, evolved by the PCSIR, might enhance the returns from sugarcane by Rs 100 crore a year.

He said the PCSIR had also made a breakthrough in enriching the iron ore, developing new varieties of glass and ceramics, use of oils, fats and waxes.—PPI

FRAMEWORK FOR EDUCATION, COMMUNITY UPLIFT

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 14 Nov 82 pp 1, 4

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, NOV 13: DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION DR MAHBUBUL HAQ TODAY ANNOUNCED THE POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR THE EDUCATION AND THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TO BE INCORPORATED IN THE SIXTH FIVE-YEAR PLAN AND INVITED PUBLIC DISCUSSION ON THE PLAN OBJECTIVES IN THESE TWO SECTORS.

Just returned from an exhaustive study tour of Azad Kashmir and North-West Frontier Province, the planning chief told newsmen he was seeking discussion on the proposed outline for education and community development as he would accept the blame for shortfall or lack of implementation for the Sixth Plan targets and the objects in all sectors.

He said he had travelled widely in the four provinces to achieve a consensus on the policy framework of the plan and during the next two to three months, he intended to go to villages and workers forum to solicit their opinions on various problems and priorities. With the visit to the four provinces and Azad Kashmir the first phase for the preparation of the Sixth Plan is over and the Planning Commission would now embark on translating the ideas emerging from the visits into concrete action.

Dr Mahbubul Haq said that in provinces there was a consensus on the framework of the plan as outlined by him which included opening of the rural areas to development activity, export of fruits, vegetables and agricultural products and develop-

ment of Baluchistan as an agrarian economy. There would be emphasis on laying network of rural roads, power, water and other infrastructural facilities, he said.

OBJECTIVES

While talking about the plan objectives for the Sixth Five-Year Plan in the fields of education and local bodies he said he was proposing disbursement of 10 per cent of plan outlay for community development through the local bodies. This would mean an allocation of approximately Rs 500 crore to local bodies against the present Rs 170 crore.

He was of the view that community development work like rural roads, construction of small 1-2 megawatt turbines and supply of safe drinking water should be handed over to the local bodies. In this connection the district local councils have already been asked to prepare five-year district development plans.

The power of the local bodies to levy taxes was also being reviewed by the Local Bodies Commission and he was confident that these institutions would be in a position to mobilise 50 per cent of the expenditure planned to be spent through them. Presently local bodies raised Rs 70 crore only.

The Planning chief, who described his philosophy as the new economic agenda or development strategy, said he was confident that the plan would be able to hit its targets as he had found tremendous support for his policy objectives among the people. In fact in many respects the people were

already ahead of the planners. In this connection he referred to his visit to Bara Khel in Khyber Agency where people volunteered to pay toll-tax if the Government constructed a 1.3 mile-long tunnel through mountains linking Peshawar and Dera Ismail Khan. The tunnel would cost Rs 20 crore.

EDUCATION

In the field of education, Dr Haq proposed a moratorium on the opening of new universities but widening of the primary and secondary education base. This, he said, had become necessary in view of deterioration in the education standard.

Primary education and secondary education was a birth-right but higher education was a privilege, commented the Planning chief.

Education standard has gone so low that we are in danger of losing generation after generation because of this deterioration in the standard of education. He said he was of the view that there had been an unmindful growth of universities and colleges which increased from seven to nine and 270 to 450 during the last 10

years.

PRIVATE SECTOR

Dr Mahbub said private sector would be called upon to play an important role in the implementation of the Sixth Five-Year Plan whose size would be approximately Rs 25,000 crore.

He said the measures to mobilise funds for the implementation of a plan of this size would be announced by him in a month or two.

Giving an example of how the private sector would be involved in the plan implementation, Dr Mahbub said the National Highway Board had already sought the private sector's participation in the construction of a parallel National Highway from Karachi to Nowshera at an estimated cost of Rs 450 crore. The private sector can set up a company to raise funds for the project by floating shares to the public. He said the same company would be responsible for recovering or levying toll taxes on the Highway. The National Highway Board has invited the private sector companies preferably with the foreign collaboration to bid for the project.

CSO: 4200/109

POLICE USE STICKS ON STUDENTS IN GUJRAT

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 14 Nov 82 p 8

[Text]

GUJRAT Nov. 13: Police resorted to lathi-charge and tear-gas here this morning to disperse a students' procession demanding arrest and trial by military court of the culprits responsible for beating and injuring three students, one of them seriously on Nov. 9 at GT Road.

The students captured six trucks and stalled them on the road to block the traffic. They put on fire a GTS bus and a police jeep. They also broke the glasses of a Government car.

The police after registering a case have arrested 20 students under Sections 432/427/148 and 149 of the PPC.

PRESS NOTE

A Press note issued by the District Magistrate of Gujrat said that 1,000 students of three local colleges including Zemin-dara Degree College Zamindara Science College and Sir Syed College took out a procession. They were raising slogans and demanding arrest of the accused who had beaten a student Aftab Ahmad Lak and seriously injured him, cancellation of the bail before arrest granted to the accused by the Additional Sessions Judge of Gujrat and their trial by a military court.

Earlier on Nov. 9, three students were injured in a clash between two groups of students. One of them seriously injured while the other two received minor injuries. These students were injured by a

group of ten person including seven students. The students' procession came on the GT Road.

Some of the processionists were carrying sticks hockeys and iron bars.

The District Administration tried its best to persuade them to disperse peacefully.

The processionists were told that five out of the 10 accused had already been arrested and the rest would be hauled up soon.

They were also assured that the accused would be tried by military court and application for the cancellation of their bail had already been moved in the court.

The students did not pay any heed to it and continued to march forward on the GT Road.

The students captured six trucks and stalled them in the middle of the road to block the traffic.

They were violent and put on fire a GTS bus and a police jeep. They also broke the glasses of a Government car.

To disperse them the police resorted to lathi-charge and tear-gas. After which the students were dispersed.

The situation was fully under control.

The police have registered a case under Section 432/427/148-149 of the PPC and arrested 20 students for creating disturbance.—PPI.

CSO: 4200/109

1000 PAKISTANIS FACE EXPULSION FROM KUWAIT

Karachi DAWN in English 9 Nov 82 p 14

[Text]

Nearly 1,000 Pakistanis are among the 4,000 and odd illegal immigrants facing expulsion from Kuwait. The Pakistanis have now been asked to 'regularise' their stay by Dec 31, and the Pakistan Embassy was helping them in this regard. This was disclosed by Brig. Mohammad Akbar, Director-General, Bureau of Emigration and Overseas Pakistanis, at a Press conference in Karachi yesterday.

About the arrest of 61 Pakistanis following clash with Thai nationals working in Kuwait which cost one life, he said the trouble started after some Thais objected to ablution water falling on one of them. The Kuwaiti Police have been asking the detenus to name the 'killer' but so far none of the 61 had identified him.

He said the Bureau has introduced uniforms for the emigrants viz. a bush shirt and a pant or a 'dangri' (Overcoat) over their dress with name-plate on the chest and name of the Promoter at the back. The Bureau has fixed no colour of the dress which can be chosen by the emigrant himself but it should be one colour, he added.

The condition of wearing uniform will, however, not apply to doctors/engineers and other technical hands, he disclosed, adding

the uniform will help the emigrant as well as eliminate chances of "illegal" entries abroad. It will also help the authorities and agents to identify the genuine emigrants.

He also gave a cheque for Rs. 50,000 to Mrs. Zainab Gul Mohammad, mother of a worker Mohammad Younus who died from sun stroke in Saudi Arabia. This was towards the settlement of the first-ever Group Insurance Claim.

He said so far 45,000 workers have been covered under the Group Insurance Scheme which has been made mandatory for an emigrant. There are about seven lakh registered emigrants and about 1.5 million abroad — majority serving in Saudi Arabia, he disclosed.

Brig. Akbar said there were 357 promoters enlisted with the Bureau who are sending about 12,000 Pakistanis abroad mostly to the Gulf states out of which only 30/40 complaints were being received by him regarding non-fulfilment of agreements, etc.

He asked the workers desirous of jobs abroad to acquire more "technical skill" in the services oriented countries and laid stress on mass technical education on help-each-other basis because there was a future for the "technical" hands only.

CSO: 4200/108

SEEKING INDEPENDENT OPINIONS ON PLANNING SUPPORTED

Karachi DAWN in English 8 Nov 82 p 7

[Editorial]

[Text]

THE Planning Commission's decision to set up 12 working groups and two sub-groups to lay the groundwork for the Sixth Five-Year Plan is in principle a positive step. The Plan which will provide the framework for the economic management of the country for five years from 1983 onwards will be too important a document to be entrusted to only a handful of officials in the Planning Commission and the Finance Ministry. Hence, the idea of eliciting non-official opinion on the next Plan's priorities and targets is to be generally welcomed. Even in countries where elected legislatures provide an opportunity for articulation of diverse views and aggregation of competing interests, the media enjoy freedom of expression and public debate on important issues is encouraged as an established practice, the views of specialists on their respective subjects carry much weight. Thus, as a routine, universities, autonomous organisations and private scholars conduct independent and in-depth research on questions of national significance. The research carried out by unofficial organisations has its own utility. This brings out the alternatives that are available in a given area and the

degree of public support for each one of them. Thus, policy-makers are enabled to proceed not from narrow considerations but from those broad and unbiased views of specialists in various fields which enjoy wide public acceptance. This approach has been found indispensable in drawing up foreign policy, shaping the course of economic management and developing political processes in democratically governed countries.

The Planning Commission has obviously taken its cue from the experience of countries where the existence of diversities is recognised and pluralism accepted. But it would be un-realistic to expect profound results from the exercise the planning body hopes to undertake in the next few weeks. In the first place, three or four meetings that have been planned for each group will hardly suffice for them to draw up comprehensive and well-researched reports on such important and far-reaching subjects as agriculture, industry, the infrastructure, education and the like. The entire exercise should have been initiated months ago if its results were intended to be taken quite seriously. Secondly, the output of independent and unbiased re-

search is the function of adequate intellectual inputs. This in turn presupposes the existence of several independent centres of thought, competent agencies for monitoring opinion and a wide network of autonomous academic and research institutions, all enjoying a reasonable degree of freedom. The Government has its own research sections in nearly every department which are supposed to be carrying out studies in their own areas of interest. But these obviously project mainly the Government's point of view. No effort has ever been made to encourage the establishment of independent 'think tanks' in the country where specialists could conduct research with complete objectivity and articulate their findings without fear or favour. The independence of a few research organisations that did exist has been gravely eroded, so that they now function as mouth-pieces of the Government. The universities which serve as centres of independent thought and research in other countries have had their autonomous status seriously impaired and are closely controlled by the Government, so that they are making virtually no academic contribution whatsoever. Independent scholars,

academics and economists are non-existent as a class in Pakistan.

In such a situation there are only two groups which can make their voice heard in the economic decision-making process. They are the bureaucracy, on the one hand, and the interest groups, mainly, the big business and agricultural lobbies, on the other. While the first has established a widespread empire through which it effectively exercises a stranglehold over every area of national economic life, the second has the means to project its interests and influence the judgment of the bureaucracy. No other school of thought or opinion is in evidence. In fact, experience shows that individuals or institutions with an irresistible urge to project what in their honest judgment is in the broader national interest come to no good end. Had independent research been encouraged in this country, the Planning Commission would not have been constrained to resort to this hurried exercise of establishing working groups. The findings of independent economists not serving the interests of a particular lobby or class would have been available for the Planning Commission to draw upon.

PROSPECTS OF LARGER TRADE WITH INDIA DISCUSSED: FLEXIBLE EXPORT POLICIES

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 9 Nov 82 p 4

[Text]

AN Indian trade delegation has arrived in Pakistan to explore possibilities of promoting larger trade between the two neighbours. The significance of the 22-member delegation, lies in the fact that it follows the agreement between President Ziaul Haq and Mrs. Indira Gandhi in New Delhi on setting up a joint commission, and it is the first Indian non-official trade delegation to visit Pakistan in 25 years.

The three-year trade agreement between the two countries, following the Simla Accord, ended in January 1978, and since then they have not been able to conclude a new agreement despite frequent negotiations. During the first of the three years the balance of trade was in favour of Pakistan, and during the next two years in favour of India. The same happened in 1978-79 following the expiry of the agreement, but since then the trade has been extremely favourable to Pakistan. However, as Mr. Punj, the leader of the Indian delegation, has conceded, Pakistan's exports were largely re-exports as furnace oil, or temporary surpluses like pig iron. Hence the basis of trade between them has to be a balanced and fair one and gainful for both.

Following persistent pressure from India to increase the volume which reached the peak in recent years of Rs. 984 million in 1980-81, Pakistan has now allowed the import of 40 items from India by the private sector through the Trading Corporation, of Pakistan. It has also now permitted direct export of textile and other items to the free trade zones in India, provided payments are made from third countries. These are undoubtedly significant moves.

Mr. Punj is thinking in terms of not only larger trade between the two neighbours but also joint enterprises in Pakistan and in the Third World countries. Evidently the scope for co-operation in the economic sector between the two countries is infinite as long as the right political climate and cooperative spirit prevails on both sides.

Mr. Punj is now hopeful that there are more indigenous items in Pakistan which India can import profitably. Pakistan's goods have become cheaper for India now as its exchange rate has sunk to Rs. 12.72 per dollar while the Indian goods will become relatively more expensive as the exchange rate for the dollar is Rs. 9.74. Pakistani industrialists and other producers need not now have the fear of Indian goods swamping their products because of their lower prices. Clearly not only the

current political situation but also the exchange rates are helpful to larger trade between them.

Mr. Punj says that Indian businessmen are aware that trade between the two countries should not adversely affect Pakistan's nascent industry, and India is in favour of a two-way trade as between fair business partners. The Indian Trade Delegation's approach is realistic and sensible. And there is real flexibility on Pakistan's side and the readiness to promote larger trade on a pragmatic basis.

India wants larger trade with Pakistan at a time when the exports of both the countries have slumped and their export prices, too, have fallen. If Pakistan can import from India items cheaper than from other sources, both price and quality-wise, such imports should be encouraged. And in the sphere of exports, Pakistan may have to provide tax concessions and other reliefs so that its products could be exported to India without undue exertion. The fact is that Pakistani manufacturers and exporters will have to compete with Indian products the world over even if their imports are not permitted into Pakistan. A ban or real deterrents to imports may encourage smuggling as well. Hence the Government should look into the fiscal structure and other bottlenecks that impair Pakistan's export capacity and remove them. In a rapidly-changing world the controllers of Pakistan's economy have to be ready to change, to become flexible and pragmatic to achieve positive results. An excess of caution or a passion for status quo will not enable the economy to move fast, much less take the kind of leaps the Planning Commission is rosily envisaging.

CSO: 4200/113

JUDICIARY CLAIMED TO HAVE 'ALL REQUISITE POWERS'

Karachi DAWN in English 8 Nov 82 p 9

[Text]

LAHORE, Nov 7: The Acting Chief Justice of the Lahore High Court Mr Justice Javed Iqbal, today observed that the judiciary in Pakistan enjoyed all those powers to which this institution should be entitled in a civilised setup and an Islamic society.

Talking informally to newsmen at his chamber, he said, during the last eleven years of his association with judiciary as a High Court judge he had never experienced any interference from any Government. He replied in the affirmative to a question if the existing judicial system in Pakistan was in conformity with the verse of the Holy Quran which was the motto of the superior courts "Ediloo Huwa Aqrabu Littaqa". He was of the opinion that the judicial system in Pakistan was very close to Taqwa.

The learned acting Chief Justice was of the opinion that the powers of the judiciary had not been curtailed because of the promulgation of the Provincial Constitutional Order, 1961.

Mr Justice Javed Iqbal observed that unlike developed countries, the developing countries had their own peculiar problems which could not be ignored in assigning rôle to the judiciary. Similarly, India and Pakistan too had different problems and circumstances to face and hence there could be a difference in their approach to judicial system.

He maintained that the judiciary was not there to give or make laws — it was strictly for the legislature

or legislator to give laws while the judiciary's function was only to interpret those laws.

He asserted that the judiciary in a society was deeply linked with the public opinion and its strength, to a very large extent, depended on the public opinion in that society.

Answering a question, he said, the doctrine of Necessity which was often attributed to Prof Hans Kelsen, was much older. One could find it in the writings of the great Muslim political thinker, Al-Mawardi in whose opinion opposition to government engaged in enforcing Islam in the society was punishable.

Referring to the burden of work in the four benches of the Lahore High Court, he said, the correct position was that even if a judge could be expected to dispose of one thousand cases each, as many as 53 judges were needed in the benches as over 53,000 cases were pending at present. The judges, he said, were extremely overworked and it was wrong to suggest that they did not do enough work.

He released figures to prove that over 30,000 cases were pending in Lahore bench alone while the number of those in Multan, Rawalpindi and Bahawalpur benches, stood at 10,000, seven thousand and five thousand respectively. Similarly, in a civil court about 2,04,000 cases remained undecided while in district courts alone 74,000 cases were awaiting disposal.

WALI KHAN CRITICIZES EXPLOITATION OF ISLAM

Karachi DAWN in English 8 Nov 82 p 9

[Text]

PESHAWAR, Nov 7: Khan Abdul Wali Khan, a leader of the defunct National Democratic Party, has criticised the various interpretations of Islam by different quarters to suit their interests.

Talking informally to newsmen at the Lady Reading Hospital here, where he had gone to visit his ailing father, Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, he said the Government too had its own interpretation of Islam, declaring things Islamic or otherwise according to its own interests, while politicians, on the other hand, defined the religion to their own benefit.

Referring indirectly to a defunct political party claiming to be the champion of Islam, he said if you judged this party from its words that it used for others, you would observe there was no sanity which Islam demanded from its followers.

Khan Abdul Wali Khan said the holy Prophet (may peace be upon him) had declared that he who

harmed other Muslims by his tongue or hand could not be a true Muslim. "If we are true believers and followers of Islam, we shall have to prove from our deeds and words," he added.

In reply to a question, he said he had completed the research work and part of the book up to the period of 1948 and had also made notes of his party's trial in the Supreme Court to the jail period. He said he was intending to bring the entire post-partition period up to the present era.

About 100 persons visit Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan in the hospital daily and some more X-rays were taken yesterday. The medical board is expected to give its opinion by this evening.

Abdul Ghani Khan, the brother of Khan Abdul Wali Khan, who is suffering from a lungs disease and is being treated in the same hospital is undergoing very crucial treatment.—PPI

CSO: 4200/107

TEHRIK EXPELS NAFEEES SIDDIQI

Karachi DAWN in English 8 Nov 82 p 9

[Text]

Mr. Nafees Siddiqi, Central Information Secretary of the defunct Tehrik-i-Istiqlal, was expelled from the party yesterday.

Mr. Musheer Pesh Imam, the party's Secretary-General, in a Press release, explained that action against Mr. Nafees Siddiqi had been taken "for serious violations of party discipline."

Mr. Nafees Siddiqi was assigned the responsibility of coordination and information for MRD. The defunct Tehrik's Central Executive at an earlier meeting in Peshawar had decided not to accept any office in MRD in view of its differences over the move to form an MRD Secretariat and to organise MRD on the provincial, district and other levels.

The Press release from the office of Mr. Pesh Imam said that the party's Acting President, Syed Munir Shah, had terminated the primary membership of Mr. Nafees Siddiqi

and had appointed Malik Haider Osman, Additional Secretary of the party, to perform temporarily the functions of Information Secretary.

In another Press release, Mr. Pesh Imam said Mr. Nafees Siddiqi at his own request was granted permission to see the party chief, Mr. Asghar Khan, on Nov. 15. However, it added, Mr. Asghar Khan had declined to see him and informed the Government accordingly through the Commissioner, Abbottabad.

Mr. Nafees Siddiqi in a statement denied that he had accepted any office in the MRD Secretariat. He said he had only accepted "certain responsibilities" to make MRD "effective." If the defunct Tehrik Working Committee told him not to undertake any assignment of MRD, he would excuse himself under party discipline from the MRD Secretary-General, he assured.

CSO: 4200/107

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION UNDER REVIEW

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 9 Nov 82 p 8

[Text]

FAISALABAD, Nov. 8: President Zaiul Haq appointed a committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Mohammad Afzal, presidential Advisor on higher education and Chairman UGC, to review the whole system of competitive examination of Federal Public Service Commission in order to select most suitable persons for different services, keeping in view the requirements of the country.

The committee would submit its report to the president for consideration, this was disclosed here today by Mian Mumtaz Ali, Vice-Chancellor University of Agriculture while addressing the member of the syndicate. He said that the University may be granted relaxation for 25 years to the maximum of 30 years for admission to competitive examination. He further informed the members that such matters have been considered by the committee and the decision on the report is awaited from the Federal Government.

The syndicate accorded approval for the affiliation of Barani Agriculture College Rawalpindi with the University of Agriculture. The Barani Agricultural College was established by the provincial Govt. in Feb. 1980, in accordance with the recommendations of the Barani Commission, with a view to produce personnel trained for barani oriented agriculture.

The syndicate also approved the institution of a new degree programme of M.S.C. CRO. Physiology and its courses of study. It also increased the quota for the admission of candidates from the brotherly Islamic countries in various courses.

CSO: 4200/113

AFGHAN TROOPS REPORTEDLY SUFFER HEAVY LOSSES

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 9 Nov 82 p 6

[Text]

PESHAWAR, Nov. 8: Details are now available here about the gains made by the Mujahideen in their encounters with Afghan troops in Kunar province during the last two months.

According to reports reaching here from across the border, the Mujahideen ambushed Afghan troops, inflicted heavy casualties, and shot down one jet aircraft, one helicopter and fighter plane.

Reports said Mujahideen ambushed a supply convoy between Asmar and Barikot on Sept. 26 and seized 18 vehicles loaded with supplies.

Upon this, some troops of the Afghan army were sent for operations against the Mujahideen on Sept. 28. However, the Mujahideen ambushed the troops and inflicted heavy casualties and losses. A Brigadier, 16 officers, four NCOs and a number of soldiers were killed and 10 officers and some NCOs were wounded. One lieutenant colonel and over 500 officers and troops were captured.

Mujahideen ambushed a convoy near Nwabad Babar on Oct. 7, as a result of which a large number of Afghan officers and soldiers were killed or wounded.

Mujahideen raided a post of 914 border battalion in Bambool in Kandahar province on Oct. 6 where one Soviet adviser, and three Afghan soldiers were killed, the deputy commander of the battalion and two soldiers were wounded, and four armymen were captured.

Due to Mujahideen firing, ambushes and mine blasts in area between Chamkani and Matun in

Paktya, five officers and 16 soldiers were killed, 13 Afghan officers, one NCO, 171 armymen and three party workers were wounded and 21 soldiers were captured. One Afghan aircraft was shot down.

In Khugiani, in Ningrahar province, Mujahideen killed 32 troops on Sept. 28. Earlier, the deaths of 66 troops were reported from the same area. These casualties were from the troops and volunteers who were lured into Khugiani by Mujahid leader Zaman on the pretext of surrendering. A number of troops and volunteers were captured by Mujahideen. Mujahideen ambushed a convoy near Behsud bridge on Oct. 7, in which one soldier was killed and three others were wounded.

In the encounters in Parwan and Lagnman, Mujahideen killed eight officers, three NCOs and 10 soldiers. They wounded one battalion commander, one company commander and 14 armymen and shot down one helicopter.

Mujahideen frequently fired on troops in Kabul and Sarobi area. They ambushed convoys on Kabul-Jalalabad highway on Sept. 1, 7, and 8, destroyed two tanks, six vehicles and killed 11 Soviet and several Afghan soldiers. Several armymen were killed or wounded in the Sarobi area.

Mujahideen shot down one jet aircraft at Matun in Paktya province on Sept. 30, one helicopter and a Jet fighter on Oct. 3, in Paktya province, one helicopter near Kandahar on Oct. 3, and one helicopter near Dara in Parwan province on Oct. 8. —APP

CSO: 4200/113

NWFP LAWYERS BLAME GOVERNMENT FOR SITUATION

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 6 Nov 82 p 8

[Text]

PESHAWAR, Nov. 5: The presidents and secretaries of all the Bar Associations of NWFP, members of the Pakistan and NWFP Bar Councils and Senior Members of the High Court Bar Association, Peshawar met here yesterday and thoroughly discussed and considered the ways and means, to achieve the objectives of the lawyers community of Pakistan.

The meeting convened by the PHCBA and Presided over by Mian Mohammad Ismail Qureshi, congratulated the lawyers of Pakistan particularly those arrested, for their sacrifices and united efforts to achieve their goal. It appreciated that the movement launched by the lawyers for the achievement of their objectives in a very peaceful manner, was being pursued in most successful manner and the meeting re-affirmed its full support to the movement, and pro-

mises to offer every sacrifice for the same in the way and manner decided by the representatives committee of all Pakistan lawyers.

The meeting, however, noted with regret the attitude of the government towards this peaceful protest of lawyers, by arresting some of them at Lahore and Karachi on the pretext of unlawful activities, and convicting them by Summary Military Courts where no normal defence was allowed to them, and this had further aggravated the situation for which the government was responsible.

It was of the opinion that establishment of rule of law and constitutional government, had been the main object of the Constitutional and political structure of Pakistan as desired and expressed from time to time, by the Quaid-e-Azam, who was also a lawyer and the lawyers community felt its duty to struggle for the same.

The recent amendments in the legal practitioners and Bar Council

Act, 1973 it observed had been promulgated with a motive to desist the lawyers from their struggle for the sacred achievement, which act of the government was detrimental to the cause of the people and the country at large.

The meeting, therefore, called upon the government to release immediately Syed Aftikhar Hussain Gilani and Sher Alam, Advocates, arrested at Lahore, Abdul Hafeez Lakho, President and Abdul Malik Khan, Secretary of Karachi Bar Association arrested at Karachi and all others lawyers, and to accept all the demands of lawyers approved by a declaration and resolutions in the All Pakistan Lawyers Conviction held in Lahore.

The resolution was moved by Khan Bahadur Khan, Member Provincial Bar Council, while the speakers included Khan Baba Khan, Mushtaq Ali Tahirkheli, Inam Ullah Khan, Barristers Wisal and Masood Kasur and Syed Sibtul Hassan.

CSO: 4200/119

LAWYERS' STRUGGLE LAUDED

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 7 Nov 82 p 8

[Article by Shoaib Siddiqui]

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Nov. 6: The President of Pakistan Bar Association, Muhammad Ismail Chaudhry, said here today the lawyers community, numbering more than 20,000, was struggling hard for the restoration of basic human rights, suspended under the Martial Law. Ninety per cent lawyers, he claimed, had no affiliation with any political party.

Mr. Ismail Chaudhry was addressing a Press conference this evening. 'We the lawyers stand for the rule of law, rule of the Quran, and the Sunnah. We are struggling for the restoration of basic human rights. These rights have been gifted by Almighty God and no one can take them back', he declared.

Replying to a question about Begum Nusrat Bhutto, he said, there should be no discrimination in her case and she must be allowed to go abroad for medical treatment. When Wali Khan could go abroad frequently for treatment, why can't she, he asked.

To another question, he said the country was facing a leadership vacuum. The present political leaders, he said, had been discarded by the people as they were neither sincere nor had the capability of championing the cause of the people. They in fact, he said, were engaged in 'Noora Kushti'.

Mr. Chaudhry said MRD or any other political party was not in a position to launch any popular movement for the restoration of democracy. The people of Pakistan, he said had a passion for Islam and they would not come forward to offer sacrifices for democracy or Socialism.

Mr. Chaudhry said the Martial

Law imposed by the late Prime Minister Bhutto was the fore-runner of the present one. He said elections were quite valid in Islam and the concept of consultation (Shoorah) could only be realised through the elected representatives of the people. Martial Law, he said, was opposed to the fundamental principles and spirit of Islam. 'No one has the right to snatch away the God-gifted human rights and liberties', he added.

He said he had addressed identical letters to President Ziaul Haq, Acting President, Justice Muhammad Haleem and Ambassadors of all Muslim countries based in Islamabad, attributing all the present-day problems faced by the Muslim World to dictatorship or Kingship.

These Kings and Dictators, he said, had imposed their will forcibly on the Muslim people and had established their own political and economic system, which was based on usurpation, plunder, zulm and epicureanism and they had enslaved their own people.

He stated in the letter, text of which was released by him at the news conference, that the solution to the problems of the Muslim Millat lies in abolition of all types of dictatorships and monarchies, enforcement of the laws of the Holy Quran and Sunnah, which guarantee human rights and social and economic justice, abolition of Riba (Interest), and establishment of government elected by the people.

The Islamic political system, Mr. Choudhry said could meet all the challenges of imperialism. He urged the Muslim States to follow the good example set by the Islamic Republic of Iran, which held elections despite internal rebellion and external aggression and conspiracies.

WALI KHAN HIS BOOK TO 'EXPOSE SOME BIG GUNS'

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 6 Nov 82 p 8

[Article by Murtaza Malik]

[Text]

PESHAWAR, Nov. 5: Defunct NDP leader Abdul Wali Khan has said that some big religious leaders Pirs, Khans and Nawabs would be unmasked when his book on the political developments in the Sub-continent was finally through the Press.

In an interview here the Khan, who was here to see his ailing father Abdul Ghaffar Khan in the Lady Reading Hospital, said that during his recent stay in London he was a frequent visitor to the India Office Library where he was able to dig out some very interesting and revealing material with regard to the role of some "big guns" during the time when the British were planning to say good bye to India.

Wali Khan said he had been getting hold of such records in the past as well but this time he confined himself to the correspondence between the Viceroy and the Frontier's Governor which disclos-

ed that some prominent religious figures had been helping the British in the achievement of their objectives against a monthly return of just 15 chips. That, he remarked, was very unfortunate. Although, he said, the India Office Library still had got lot of material which could be helpful but the stock he had already gathered was sufficient for his book, which would be published in Pushto. Its Urdu rendering would be done by his wife Nasim Wali.

Khan Wali Khan said that his real motive in visiting the India Office Library was to get a clue to the British policy regarding his Father's Khudai Khidmatgar Movement as it neither helped them internally nor externally. The British he recalled used Islam for their political ends and that was why the Kufr fatwas had been procured against Bacha Khan from the religious leaders by the British Governor. The British, he added, were afraid of Bacha Khan's movement although it was based on non-violence.

CSO: 4200/119

BRIEFS

LAWYERS' CONVICTION CRITICIZED--HYDERABAD, Nov 7--The General Secretary of Hyderabad Bar Association, Mr. Abdul Sattar, today strongly condemned the sentence awarded to Mr. Abdul Hafeez Lakho and Mr. Abdul Malik, and cases filed against other advocates including Mr. Fatehyab Ali Khan, Mr. Ansar Burney, Mr. Rasheed Rizvi, Mr. Aqil Lodhi, Mr. Naheed Afzal, Mr. Nafees Siddiqui, Mrs. Nargis Siraj and Secretary of Karachi Bar Association Farooq H. Naik. He also demanded that the 1973 Constitution be restored. [Karachi DAWN in English 8 Nov 82 p 12]

SIMLY DAM COMPLETED--ISLAMABAD, Nov 7--The long awaited Simly Dam project, launched in 1964 was on Sunday completed at a cost of Rs 52 crore. The Chairman Capital Development Authority (CDA) told newsmen that the completion of Simly Dam did not require any foreign assistance. He added he was offered assistance many times by aid-giving agencies, but he never encouraged the idea as it would have doubled the estimated cost of the Dam. The reservoir of the Dam will store water of flood and perennial flows of Soan river, which will be filtered and supplied to Islamabad through twin conduction pipeline. The Rawalpindi Municipal Corporation, the CDA chief said, has also been offered a fair quantity of water for the people in Rawalpindi. Mr Gardezi said the Dam will provide 24 million gallons of water a day, which was enough to meet the needs of Islamabad. The Simly Dam, he said, will also supply water for irrigation in all the nearby villages. [Karachi DAWN in English 8 Nov 82 p 12]

BIZENJO BARRED FROM KARACHI--Externment order was served on Mir Ghous Bakhsh Bizenjo, President of the defunct Pakistan National Party (PNP), in Karachi yesterday. But his externment from Sind has been withheld for a week to enable him to undergo certain medical tests in Karachi. Mr Bizenjo was asked to leave immediately as his "activities were considered inconsistent with the maintenance of peace and public order in the Province." The order will remain valid for a period of one month. [Karachi DAWN in English 9 Nov 82 p 1]

NEW PASSENGER TERMINAL PLANNED--A British consulting firm is preparing a report on traffic flows at Karachi Airport which will form a basis for the construction of the new terminal building, says a BLS Press release. The report is being prepared by Sir Alexander Gibb and Partners and the work has been assigned by the UK's Overseas Development Administration as part of its aid programme for Pakistan. According to the Press release, preliminary on-site surveys of passenger and baggage handling are being processed with the aid of computer simulation programmes at Reading, southern England. Future flows

will be forecast, and the analysis will be used to ascertain the optimum size of a new terminal, including aircraft parking aprons, access roads and car park. [Karachi DAWN in English 9 Nov 82 p 14]

STUDENTS' RELEASE DEMANDED--The President of Dawood College of Engineering, Syed Mohammad Bilal and General Secretary, Mr Rizwan Husain, have demanded immediate release of University students, Mr Imtiaz Ahsen and Mr Ahmed Ali. [Karachi DAWN in English 9 Nov 82 p 14]

BAR ASSOCIATION TO INVITE LEADERS--Nov 8--A joint meeting of the Lahore High Court and District Bar Associations, held here in the High Court premises on Monday decided to invite leaders of various political parties to address the bars, in pursuance of a resolution adopted earlier. The meeting, which was jointly chaired by the presidents of the two bars, namely Mr Abid Hasan Minto and Mr M.R. Arshad, also decided to set-up a committee to request the leaders to address them. The meeting further decided in principle to observe general strike on a day, to be fixed later, after consulting other bars of the country. The meeting was addressed by Mr Abid Hasan Minto, Mr Eitezaz Ahsan, Mr Bashir Zafar, Mr Afzal Sindhu and Raja Mohammad Safdar. [Karachi DAWN in English 9 Nov 82 p 16]

JOURNALISTS SUPPORT LAWYERS--APNEC (Karachi) and KUJ (Barna group) at a joint meeting of the Karachi Press Club expressed their solidarity with the lawyers struggling for the restoration of their legal rights. The meeting was addressed by the Acting President of the Karachi Bar Association, Mr Khalid Hameed; General Secretary, Mr Farooq Naik, and lawyers Rashid Rizvi and Shamsad Lari. From among the journalists Mr Minhaj Barna, Chairman, Central APNEC; Mr Mahmud Ali Asad, Chairman, Karachi APNEC, and Mr Abdul Quddus Shaikh, President, KUJ, addressed the gathering. A labour leader, Mr S.P. Lodhi and noted writer Shaukat Siddiqi also spoke, while poet Habib Jalib recited his poems. Resolution adopted at the meeting called for the release of political leaders, journalists, students and labour representatives, and also for the lifting of censorship and restoration of civil liberties. PPI adds: Mirza Jawwad Baig said in a statement yesterday that the lawyers' agitation in Lahore and then in Karachi against the amendments in the Bar Bouncil Act does not really have any direct bearing on the masses. It is rather a professional struggle and has not much to do with common public interest. However, it is in the interest of the nation and would be wise on the part of the M.L. Government to immediately release all advocates, so far arrested in connection with the present movement and accept the legitimate demands of the lawyers forthwith, he added. [Karachi DAWN in English 9 Nov 82 p 16]

PAKISTAN-UNITED STATES JOINT VENTURES--A joint venture drilling company may be formed in Pakistan to accelerate the pace of drilling oil wells in the country, it was learnt in Karachi. A proposal for the formation of such a company came up for initial discussion between Pakistan's Economic Minister in Washington and the U.S. investors. An American firm has prepared a feasibility report on the proposed joint venture. The report said Pakistan could achieve oil production level of 30,000 to 40,000 barrels per day as a result of an accelerated exploration and development programme. It quoted experts saying that such a level of oil production was not out of Pakistan's reach.

This would result in the saving of foreign exchange resources which can be utilised for internal development. Drilling and workover operations, the feasibility report said, are highly sophisticated and technical in nature, thus demand imaginative synthesis of technical and management resources. "In our view, to achieve an accelerated pace of drilling activity, without which Pakistan's energy resources can not be developed in the shortest possible time it is necessary to separate drilling from search and exploration for oil," the report said. [Karachi DAWN in English 9 Nov 82 p 16]

SIDDIQI CRITICIZES EXPULSION--Mr Nafees Siddiqi has said that the termination of his primary membership of the defunct Tehrik-i-Istiqlal was against the constitution of Tehrik and termed it as a conspiracy against the party. In a Press statement he said yesterday he never violated the party manifesto, constitution or decisions of the National Working Committee. Actually, Party Secretary-General, Mr Musheer Pesh Imam, is violating the decisions and policies of the party and working against the interests of the party, he said. However, he said, the matter as to who had violated the party policies and decisions can be presented and discussed by the National Working Committee or National Council of the party who are the most competent bodies of the party for taking such decisions. He appealed to the members of the National Council to give him an opportunity and look into his "conduct and activities" and that of Mr Pesh Imam. [Karachi DAWN in English 9 Nov 82 p 16]

MEMBER QUILTS TEHRIK--QUETTA, Nov 8--The Central councillor of the defunct Tehrik-i-Istiqlal, Sher Farooq Shah Agha, has resigned from the basis membership of the party. [Karachi DAWN in English 9 Nov 82 p 16]

PERMANENT SPLIT IN JUI--Nov 8--All efforts to reunite the two warring groups of the defunct Jamiat Ulema-i-Islam (JUI) appear to have failed and the two factions have come to function separately. Announcing this at a Press conference Maulana Faqir Mohammad a third Nazim of the defunct party claimed that 300 out of the 397 members of the Central Council had attended a meeting convened by the group, which would like to be known as Mufti Mahmud Group and had chosen Maulana Siraj Ahmad Dinpuri as the Amir and Maulana Fazlur Rehman son of late Mufti Mahmud as the new Secretary-General. The other faction, which would be headed by Maulana Darkhwasti and Maulana Ubaidullah Anwar, would be known as the Maulana Darkhwasti Group. The Mufti Mahmud Group whose formation has been announced formally, would continue its membership of the party. [Karachi DAWN in English 9 Nov 82 p 16]

WORLD BANK AID--HYDERABAD, Nov 8--WAPDA authorities said here on Monday that the World Bank had agreed in principle to consider part financial assistance for completion of Rs 3,750 million Left Bank Outfall Drain Project (LBOD) stage one in Sind province. An agreement has recently been signed between Sir Macdonald and Partners Ltd and Hunting and Technical Services Limited as consultants and World Bank officials in Washington for preparation of final feasibility report of the project. A team of British consultants has already started work and was expected to submit its report by the end of the current year to World Bank and Pakistani Government. [Karachi DAWN in English 9 Nov 82 p 16]

ZAKAT FUNDS TO PROVINCES--ISLAMABAD, Nov. 13--The Central Zakat Council has decided to enhance the amount of the sixth instalment of Zakat from Rs 250 million to Rs 375 million. The additional amount of Rs 125 million will mainly be utilised for educational purposes and giving scholarships and stipends to students and trainees at all levels who are Mustahiq-i-Zakat, bear good moral character and have proved their capabilities to receive education and training. The additional amount of Rs 125 million has been distributed as follows: PUNJAB: Rs 73.79 million. SIND: Rs. 25.00 million. NWFP: Rs 17.50. Baluchistan Rs 7.50 million. Islamabad Capital territory: Rs 125 million. This supplementary allocation from the Central Zakat Fund will enable the provincial Zakat administrations to widen the scope and coverage of the schemes for education and training they have already been operating with the funds. [Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 14 Nov 82 p 1]

OVERSEAS REMITTANCES SHOW INCREASE--ISLAMABAD, Nov 13--Remittances during the last quarter Jul-Sept 1982 are estimated at 621 million dollars showing a 27.5 per cent increase over remittances during the corresponding period last fiscal year. This increase in the foreign exchange being sent by overseas Pakistanis is being attributed to delinking of rupee from dollar. Officials in Islamabad are confident that in spite of the decline in exports caused by the worldwide depression, Pakistan would be able to maintain its capital account deficit at last years level of 1.5 billion dollars due to higher remittances. [Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 14 Nov 82 p 1]

INDIA-PAKISTAN JOINT COMMISSION--ISLAMABAD, Nov 13--India-Pakistan talks at Foreign Secretary level in New Delhi, beginning from Dec 23, will finalise details of the joint Indo-Pakistan commission and also discuss the no-war pact offered by Pakistan and the mutual friendship treaty proposed by India, official sources said today. The talks on joint commission are expected to face no hurdle as President Zia and Indian Premier Indira Gandhi have already agreed on the proposal. The talks on no-war pact and friendship treaty are not likely to be conclusive at this meeting and continue later. On the commission, the two sides will discuss among other matters as to which Minister should represent each country. Most likely it will be at the Foreign Minister's level. [Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 14 Nov 82 p 1]

SMALL INDUSTRIES INVESTMENT IN SIND--The Sind Small Industries Corporation has sanctioned an investment of Rs 66.677 million under various available investment facilities for 95 projects in the Province during 1981-82, said an official handout. Of these, 78 are located in the rural areas and Industrial Estates Parks at Sukkur, Larkana, Hyderabad, Mirpurkhas and Sehwan. The achievement has been worked out as 33 per cent over and above the target of Rs 50 million fixed for the year 1981-82, under the three-year Plan 1981-84. The sanctioned projects are for trades like rice husking milling. Poultry farming, re-rolling, herb extraction, marble and glass products, oil expelling, wheat and grain milling Dall making, ice and cold storage, furniture making, light engineering, shoe making, food products, cotton waste cleaning, ready-made garment making, woollen carpets, card-board making and printing. [Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 14 Nov 82 p 3]

BLAST FURNACE READY--KARACHI, Nov. 8--The second blast furnace of Pakistan Steel has been completed and all the units in the mills will start working in 1984, the Chairman, H.N. Akhtar, said here. In an interview, he said that four big units were commissioned last year and by the end of this year the number of completed units would rise to nine. He said that oxygen plant, filtration plant and steel making plant and billet mill would be commissioned this year. He added that strip would be completed next year. It would manufacture steel plates. The last unit, cold rolling mill, would start production in 1984. It would produce cold rolled sheets, galvanised sheets, farmed sections, i.e. angles, channels, girders. etc. [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 9 Nov 82 p 6]

GHAFFAR KHAN CLARIFIES OBJECTIVE--PESHAWAR, Nov. 8--Former Red Snirt leader Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan has said that he had been detained at a time when he was trying to alert the people against the "flood" that was fast approaching Pakistan. Talking to Mohammad Ashraf Khan and professor Imdad Hussain Beg, two prominent leaders of the defunct Muslim League, who called on him in the Lady Reading Hospital he added that in order to meet the threat he honestly believed that unity of the people was most essential. As such he was endeavouring to unite the people but unfortunately he had been stopped from doing so. He said that being a Khudai Khidmatgar he just wanted to serve the people without expecting anything in return and he would continue to do that as far as possible. [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 9 Nov 82 p 8]

NEWSMEN'S APOLOGY ACCEPTED--PESHAWAR, Nov 5--Chief Justice Usman Ali Shah of the Peshawar High Court accepted the unconditional apology of the chief executive and others of daily 'Mashriq' in the contempt application filed by the president of the High Court Bar Association on Nov. 3 - The application was based on an article 'Islam, Ishtarakiat aur Paishai Wakalat' by Abdul Karim Abid published in the daily in its issue of Sept. 18. The petitioner had submitted that the said article contained material in contempt of the lawyers and the judiciary. The unconditional apology was read out one by one by all the four accused, Iqbal Zuberi, Ziaul Islam, M.A. Shafiqi and Abdul Karim Abid in loud voices. The court, while accepting the apology, warned the accused to be careful in future. Besides Ismail Qureshi, others appearing for the petition included Qazi Jameel, Javed Bokhari, Asadullah Khan and Amin Khattak. [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 6 Nov 82 p 6]

PAKISTAN DEBT PER CAPITA--LAHORE, Nov. 5--Every Pakistani \$ 135.40 at the current exchange rate, as share of the foreign debts outstanding against Pakistan. This burden was almost doubled in nine years as in 1972 it amounted to \$ 66.17 per Pakistani. The total outstanding debts against Pakistan on June 31, 1981, amounted to 11344.288 million dollars when the total population stood at 83.782 million. As against the same the outstanding debt of Pakistan equalled to 4321.94 million dollars in 1972 when the population was 65.308 million. [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 6 Nov 82 p 6]

DETENTION EXTENDED--MUZAFFARGARH, Nov. 6--The detention of Malik Ghulam Murtaza Khar and Malik Ghulam Miladi Khar, brothers of former Punjab Chief Minister Malik Mustafa Khar, has been extended for a further three months, it was officially learned here on Thursday. They will be detained in District Jail,

Multan. More than 20 lawyers, including Sardar Manzoor Ahmed Khan, ex-president of the District Bar Association, have demanded the withdrawal of these detention orders on humanitarian grounds, as Malik Ghulam Miladi Khar has long been ill. [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 7 Nov 82 p 6]

'MRD FOUNDED BY MUFTI MAHMOOD'--LAHORE, Nov 6--Maulana Hamid Mian of defunct Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam has disclosed that the movement for Restoration of Democracy was, in fact, founded by Maulana Mufti Mahmood, who had a "great longing" for revival of democracy and rule of law in the country. The Maulana told reporters Friday at Jamia Madnia, where he leads prayers, that the late Maulana had directed the JUI leaders to contact all the political parties, including Pakistan People's Party, for a broad-based alliance on a minimum programme of restoration of democracy in the country. He said that Maulana Mufti Mahmood gave these directions in the general council's meeting on Sept. 15, 1980 at Madrissa Qasimul Uloom, Sheranwala Gate. Maulana Hamid Mian said had not Mufti Mahmood died on Oct. 14 the same year, he would have convened the meeting of leaders of all the political parties, except Jamaat-e-Islami, for formally signing the draft declaration of the MRD. He said that the same evening was fixed for signing the declaration when Maulana Mufti Mahmood passed away. The JUI leader said the Maulana Mufti Mahmood had himself done the spade-work which ultimately resulted in the formation of MRD. The JUI leader said that as many as 400 invitations were issued by the convener of the JUI for holding general council meeting at Lahore on Nov. 8 and except for one all were received by the addressee. He said that invitations were also received by Maulana Abdullah Darkhawasti, Maulana Obedullah Anwar and others. [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 7 Nov 82 p 6]

POLITICAL LEADERS ISSUED NOTICES--LAHORE, Nov. 7--Mohammad Farooq Qureshi, Sh. Rafiq Ahmad and Maj. (Retd.) Ijaz, three political leaders have received notices issued to them by the District Magistrate, Lahore, for attending a political meeting at the Jamia Masjid Madina on Sept. 24. In their replies, they have contended that they had gone to the mosque to say their Juma prayers and not to attend any meeting. After the prayers, they had prayed for the prosperity, solidarity and integrity of the country. It may be mentioned, these leaders had been warned by the district authorities to desist from participating in political activities, which was an offence under the Martial Law Regulations. [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 8 Nov 82 p 6]

REFUGEES EXODUS CONTINUES UNABATED--LONDON, Nov. 8--Thousands of Afghans are fleeing to Pakistan in a renewed refugee exodus to escape widespread food shortages and the onset of winter in Afghanistan. Hard figures on the influx were not available, but U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) officials said the flow is comparable to the 10,000 new arrivals per month that immediately followed the Soviet military intervention in late 1979. Most of the refugees came from Baghlan province in the far north, which has been the scene of heavy aerial bombing in recent weeks. Hundreds of families have been converging on Pakistan since late October, creating an additional burden on Pakistan, which has already given shelter to 2.8 million Afghan refugees. 'Those who want to flee and are able to flee are fleeing', said Alain Coat, deputy head of mission at the UNHCR office in Pakistan. 'We have no control over who is coming in. There are so many of them. It's a serious problem for Pakistan. I am not saying Afghanistan is emptying, but a lot of people are

leaving,' he said. 'When you consider that Pakistan and Iran between them have taken nearly four million refugees, you're talking of about one quarter of Afghanistan's population.' [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 9 Nov 82 p 4]

PIA JEDDA FLIGHT--ISLAMABAD, Nov 5--The first PIA non-stop Islamabad-Jeddah flight landed at the King Abdul Aziz International Airport, Jeddah today. The arrival of PIA's green and white DC-10 marks the start of a regular non-stop weekly service between Jeddah and Islamabad and between Dhahran and Islamabad. A DC-10 will operate every Friday on the Islamabad-Jeddah-Islamabad route and an airbus will serve the Islamabad-Dhahran-Islamabad route every Wednesday. PIA will now operate a total of 17 flights a week from Karachi and Islamabad to Jeddah and Dhahran. According to a Pakistan Embassy Press release here, the new direct flights between the Saudi cities and the Pakistan capital have been introduced for the convenience of passengers and also in view of the ever increasing co-operation and goodwill in all fields between the two countries. [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 6 Nov 82 p 3]

CSO: 4200/120

REVIEW OF AID AGREEMENT PLANNED

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 13 Oct 82 p 7

[Text]

PORT MORESBY (AAP).— The Australian Prime Minister, Mr Fraser, has given Papua New Guinea formal agreement to consider PNG's request for increased aid.

The PNG Prime Minister, Mr Somare, said yesterday he expected the review to be held in February next year.

Under a five-year aid agreement that expires in September, 1985, Australia this year granted PNG A\$253 million in direct untied aid. This is about one-quarter the total annual PNG budget.

Mr Somare said the PNG government had requested "an earlier mid-term review" of the five-year agreement.

"Mr Fraser has stated that the process of reviewing the aid issue would begin with discussions between the foreign ministers later next month to finalise the terms of reference under which the review would be conducted," Mr Somare said.

Mr Somare said the full review expected in February would include consideration of aid levels for the current Australian financial year, as well as the remaining years of the aid agreement.

At least part of yesterday's announcement by Mr Somare surprised Australian government officials, who were unaware of any plans for a meeting later next month between Mr Rabbie Namaliu, PNG's Foreign Affairs and Trade Minister, and Australia's Foreign Minister, Mr Street.

The current aid debate began in August last year when the former Labor Government's External Territories Minister, Mr Bill Morrison, claimed both the Australian taxpayer and Papua New Guineans were being "ripped off" through the aid deal set up after independence from Australia in 1975.

Mr Morrison claimed much of Australia's aid to PNG had been counter-productive because it had encouraged extravagant expenditure by the PNG government on items such as ministerial travel overseas, ministerial car fleets and a prime ministerial executive jet. The government of Prime Minister, Sir Julius Chan, replied at the time that Mr Morrison was an Australian most Papua New Guineans were glad to be "rid of". Certainly, since that time, the PNG government has tried to trim unnecessary expenditure.

CSO: 4200/121

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

BRIEFS

MINING EXPLORATION BAN TO END--PORT MORRESBY, 6 Oct.--A three-year moratorium on mining exploration by foreign companies will be lifted by the PNG Government in late November. The Minister to Minerals and Energy Mr Francis Pusal, said today the ban was imposed because there were too many applications for the Mines Division to handle. "We are allocating staff to the division so that the blocks on investment will not happen again," Mr Pusal said. [Melbourne THE AGE in English 7 Oct 82 p 18]

CSO: 4200/121

NEED FOR AUSTERITY MEASURES FORESEEN

Paris LE MONDE in French 2 Nov 82 p 10

[Article by Patrick Frances]

[Text] After the re-election last October 20th of Mr Jayewardene as president of the Republic of Sri Lanka, the liberal economic policy inaugurated in 1977 can be continued. It has undoubtedly had its successes, but new problems are facing a still fragile economy.

From 1977 to 1982, Sri Lanka experienced 5 years of a conservative policy marked by the opening up of an economy which had been closed until then; a reduction in the subsidies which lowered the cost of certain goods and services; liberalization in practically every sector; and an appeal for foreign capital, to be invested, in particular, in the duty-free area created in 1978 near the capital--Colombo--, which is generally considered a success, despite criticisms it has given rise to. Thus Sri Lanka intended to follow the example of Singapore rather than that of India.

Without going so far as to undo nationalization, attempts were also made to revive the private sector. Finally, large amounts of foreign aid made it possible to finance ambitious development projects like that of the Mahaweli (the construction of dams and hydroelectric power plants on the Mahaweli River, in the eastern part of the country), which, begun in 1978, should lead to an increase in agricultural production and in the production of hydroelectric energy. A large-scale housing construction program was also embarked on.

Unemployment fell to 15 per cent of the active population (or 875,000 people), and the annual growth rate of GNP, which was 3 per cent on the average from 1970 to 1980, rose to 6.2 per cent between 1978 and 1981. Rice production rose from 1.6 million tons in 1977 to 2.2 million tons in 1981. If it had not been for a drought which afflicted the country at the beginning of the year, Sri Lanka could have hoped to at last be self-sufficient in this area.

The Problem of Corruption

In general, salaries rose in most sectors, with a few exceptions, including the civil service. Unfortunately, corruption progressed too. Questioned

about a subject which is one of the opposition's main battle cries, the minister of information turned red in the face and merely asked developed countries to "look at themselves in the mirror."

Some weaknesses remain, however: for example the situation of the plantations (tea and rubber), which are still nationalized, and whose management and marketing are still unsatisfactory. There are two problems which are still particularly vexing. First, there is the problem of emigration. Sri Lanka imports about twice as much as it exports; this leads to a large deficit, which is offset partly by receipts from tourism (a sector which, after developing rapidly, is now going through a certain stagnation) and partly by transfers made by the approximately 100,000 Ceylonese workers employed in the Persian Gulf countries and, more recently, in Africa. In a country which is still one of the poorest in the world (per capita income is estimated at 265 dollars) these transfers are a fairly important manna for many households.* This explains the fact that this emigration is openly encouraged by the government even if it deprives the country of qualified workers, which it is badly in need of. This exodus is also a safety valve in a country where unemployment remains high.

A Model Experiment

Despite its resources, the equilibrium of the balance of payments depends, in the last analysis, on transfers of foreign capital, most of them in the form of aid granted on favorable terms. The foreign debt is also growing rapidly, as is the burden of regular annual reimbursements.

A second problem which is cause for concern is that of the increase in the cost of living. Consumer prices are said to have increased by 22 per cent, on the average, between 1978 and 1981. This inflation can be explained partly by the inevitable catching up after a long price freeze.

The fact remains that many specialists consider Sri Lanka a model experiment illustrating the rescue of an economy by the World Bank and the IMF [International Monetary Fund]. This operation was facilitated by the country's size (15 million inhabitants). "The country was on the brink of bankruptcy", we were told by a banker, in whose opinion "the experiment was undoubtedly a success."

After the euphoria of 1979-1980 and the consequent overheating, the government has been obliged to put on the brakes, to put the lid on the pot (by reducing budgetary expenditures and limiting credit); this has certainly led to a decrease in inflation and an improvement in the balance of payments, but also a certain slowing down of the rhythm of economic activity.

Fragile Success

By giving priority to projects which will not bear fruit for several years, the conservative government has also committed itself to a long-term

*According to official circles, 60 per cent of Ceylonese earn 300-400 rupees per month. One Sri Lankan rupee is worth 0.33 French francs.

undertaking which will take time. This undoubtedly partly explains Mr Jayewardene's decision to hold the elections earlier, so as to then have a free hand to complete his work, however difficult the coming years are likely to be, in the view of the World Bank. At the request of the World Bank and the IMF, the government has already undertaken not to start any new projects before 1984. This explains the concentration of international aid. There is also talk of a possible devaluation and a further reduction in subsidies. Finally, austerity measures (limiting of public expenditures, controls on imports) seem unavoidable if the government intends to reduce an alarming budget deficit--an unsustainable one, in fact, which can only be financed by more bank loans. All these factors give an element of precariousness to a success which obviously still needs to be consolidated.

9855

CSO: 4219/11

EDITORIAL DEPLORES TERRORISM

Colombo SUN in English 28 Oct 82 p 7

[Editorial]

[Text] The merchants of terror have struck again. This time too they have killed three innocent law enforcers in cold blood. As the dawn broke over Chavakachcheri on Wednesday the diabolic killers stormed its police station with a purpose. They wanted a bloodbath and that only to satisfy their macabre ego.

The latest attack is significant for more than one reason. The fact that the terror dealers decided to strike at a time when emergency is in force and soon after the Presidential elections should be viewed with utmost seriousness. It cannot be just a mere coincidence. The attack was obviously planned with meticulous precision and timing.

Besides the terrorists picked a well protected and a fairly big station thus proving a point that they have once again revamped their strategies and reinforced their man-power to challenge the security forces.

The cross-fire that ensued the storming of the police station and the robbery of firearms also indicate that they are a set of well trained desperados.

The Chavakachcheri killings is another good lesson to the police. They have been once again caught unawares. This is most regrettable. Instead of succumbing to the acts of terrorism the police should fight back to contain the menace.

To begin with they should assist the armed forces in launching a thorough clean up. The people of the north deserve peace and stability in their neighbourhood. And they themselves must co-operate with the law enforcers by providing vital information to smoke out the terror dealers.

The political leaders of the north themselves have either failed or faltered in lending a helping hand to the government to wipe the menace of terrorism from these areas. They have been dilly-dallying and resorting to politics of double standards based on selfish motives. For instance the undeclared 'boycott' of the last elections and the decision to nominate a convicted militant to a parliamentary seat are all a part of this game.

Some of those provocative foreign lobbyists should also hold themselves responsible for the acts of morbid violence perpetrated by their terrorist fans on the innocent people in Jaffna; above all on innocent police officers. No one in their proper senses could justify such action.

The incident is also a good eye opener to the alien crusaders of human rights for these terrorists. It is quite eary for these people to call on the government to revoke laws against terrorism. But do they really care about the consequences that could follow?

Chavakachcheri is a good lesson indeed to all of them.

CSO: 4200/106

SLFP CRITICISM USEFUL

Colombo THE ISLAND in English 27 Oct 82 p 6

[Editorial: "SLFP--and Self-Criticism"]

[Text]

Though belated, the post-mortem report on the SLFP's defeat at last week's Presidential Election issued on Monday by SLFP Secretary Ratnasiri Wickremanayake is welcome because it admits that internal divisions within the party had secondary factors and under estimate the role played by domestic differences in bringing about the party's downfall. The statement cites the Government's use of the newspapers, radio and TV as a major contributory factor to the UNP victory. This is at best an attempt to cloud the main issue with secondary factors. We do not under estimate the influence of the mass media, but recent history has repeatedly shown that a mass media controlled by the Government does not automatically guarantee its victory. The last example was the SLFP's own defeat in 1977 in spite of its control of Lake House and the SLBC and the major influence over the Times Group.

It is necessary to place the matter in this perspective because the essence of self-criticism is to first ruthlessly analyse oneself before finding reasons outside one's own camp. the SLFP has again proved by last week's performance that it is the only political party capable of mounting an effective challenge to the UNP and when one considers that it has increased its total vote by 700,000 over 1977 it certainly has no reason to lose heart. But in the absence of genuine self-criticism, an honest attempt to come to terms with one's mistakes may mean the SLFP may not fare much better in the parliamentary election that is shortly due.

The Sri Lanka freedom Party was launched by Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike as a democratic alternative to the UNP and the founding of the SLFP contributed in no small measure to the acceleration for the process of political maturity of the Sri Lanka electorate.

Since 1964 when the LSSP first joined the SLFP the left parties have clustered round the SLFP but the

SLFP was always able to retain its dominant position in these alliances. It maintained its image as a party wedded to an economy where the dominant role would be played by the state sector but never did it leave the path of the mixed economy inspite of the periodic efforts of its Marxist allies to accelerate the march to socialism.

The SLFP would do well to discover to what extent the party was able to retain this image at the Presidential Election. The fact is that during the recently concluded campaign the party machinery was captured by a set of extremists, a caucus of adventurists whose rhetoric did not do anything to reassure the average SLFP voter already bewildered by the internal squabbles in which the party was caught up. Their platform was a hotch-potch of ill-digested socialism, infantile populism and strident chauvinism mixed with a dash of the old welfarist rhetoric. They spoke of a pure socialist state which our people have always rejected. They showed no willingness to come to terms with the new realities unfolded by UNP rule since 1977. If the party is honest enough to engage in an exercise in self-criticism it must find out how much the attempt to foist the old threadbare nostrums, embalmed within musty text books, on a people immersed in a new reality had contributed to the party's defeat.

This should be part of larger effort by the party to re-think its policies and priorities. How best can the country be developed? Is it by doctrinaire socialism, welfarism, a mixed economy or an open market economy? Is it better to have goods at a price or have it distributed on the ration card. Is it better to have statism in industry or bring in the private sector too to collaborate with the state?

These are all questions which the SLFP would do well to go into before they draw up their manifesto for the next election. All serious-minded people on the left might profitably ponder on the question whether last week's victory of the UNP does not signal a trend towards a middle-of-the-road consensus in the country's politics.

PARTIES CONDEMN POSTPONEMENT OF GENERAL ELECTION

Colombo THE ISLAND in English 4 Nov 82 p 1

[Text]

Five political parties which supported the candidature of Mr. Hector Kobbekaduwe yesterday condemned the proposal to put off General Elections to Parliament until mid 1989 and said it was a further step by the UNP Government along the road to an absolute dictatorship.

It was also decided to invite all other parties opposed to postponing General Elections with a view of forming abroad based opposition.

The five parties which met at the SLFP Headquarters yesterday were: the SLFP, MEP, CPSL, Sri Lanka Samasamaja Party and the Prajathanthrawadie Jathika Peramuna.

A joint statement issued by the five parties said:

The sectarian and disruptive tactics of certain non-UNP parties during the Presidential elections had contributed in no small measure to President Jayewardene's victory and had encouraged him to take this new anti-democratic step.

Nevertheless, in the interest of stopping this move towards dictatorship through the widest unity of action of all parties opposed to putting off the Parliamentary elections, the parties decided to invite all such parties to a discussion in order to evolve as broad-based an opposition as possible to the postponement of the Parliamentary general elections.

INCREASE IN TEA CROP DEFICIT

Colombo DAILY NEWS in English 28 Oct 82 p 5

[Text]

Sri Lanka has dropped 2.7 million kilos of tea crop in September, compared to September last year, and the year's production deficit now stands at a dismal 19.9 million kilos.

There has been a decline in tea production world wide the year. According to the available figures, the producing countries other than China (from where statistics are not freely available to the trade) a total of 39 million kilos of crop has been lost.

"Only Sri Lanka's South India's and Bangladesh's production figures up to September are available yet. The production statistics of some countries up to August are also available. Figures from Mauritius and Uganda are available only up to April. But from the available figures, Sri Lanka's crop losses accounts for over half the global shortfall,"

a Colombo tea trader said.

While most producing countries have recorded crop shortfalls, some of the African producers have recorded small gains. Malawi's has been the most notable with production up by 2 million kilos up to August. Kenya, Mauritius and Uganda have gained slightly.

Despite the production drops, the gross tea sale average for this year is now a healthy Rs. 22.85 per kilo compared to last year's Rs. 18.11.

Brokers reported that there is good rainfall in all growing areas and a considerable crop increase has been recorded over the past week.

Brokers described this week's tea sale as satisfactory with the USSR competing with Iraq and other traditional buyers at 'useful' price levels.

CSO: 4200/106

CEYLON WORKERS CONGRESS WANTS MORE PARLIAMENT SEATS

Colombo THE ISLAND in English 4 Nov 82 pp 1, 3

[Article by D.B.S. Jeyaraj]

[Text]

The Ceylon Workers Congress wants more representation in Parliament for its political wing.

The General Secretary of the C.W.C., Mr. M.S. Sellasamy told "The Island" that the C.W.C. would negotiate with the U.N.P. to increase the number of C.W.C. representatives to be nominated as Members of the Present Parliament if the people, by way of referendum, endorsed the proposed extension of its life.

If on the other hand, the people opted for a General Election through the referendum then the C.W.C. would form an electoral alliance with the U.N.P. which would secure greater representation for the Congress, said Mr. Sellasamy.

Mr. Sellasamy said that the Presidential election results had shown that the vast majority of the people of Indian origin had backed the U.N.P. whole heartedly. The results of Nuwara-Eliya, Kandy, Badulla, Matale and Ranapura districts were good examples of this he said. Nuwara-Eliya had polled the highest for the U.N.P. in the whole country while in Ratnapura despite last years communal riots in which up-country Tamils had suffered greatly they had continued to support the U.N.P. with confi-

dence, said Mr. Sellasamy.

If the general elections are held, then we are quite confident that we could increase our representation through a tie-up with the U.N.P., said the C.W.C. Gen. Sec. Therefore if the life of Parliament is extended, then our claim for more representation would be a fair one under the circumstances" Mr. Sellasamy pointed out. At present, there was only one M.P., Mr. Thondaman, to represent the entire Indian Tamil community in Parliament, he said.

On the question of C.W.C men being appointed to U.N.P. seats, Mr. Sellasamy said that it was not a problem as already five C.W.C men including himself had contested under the U.N.P. symbol at the last Development Council elections and were holding office in the Colombo, Nuwara-Eliya, Badulla, Kandy and Ratnapura

DDC. We have mutual trust in each other and our being nominated to seats by the U.N.P. Secretary would not affect us" he said. We will continue to be in the C.W.C. political wing while being of the U.N.P. Parliamentary group" he said.

The C.W.C. is expected to meet next week and formally lend support to the referendum.

CSO: 4200/123

OVERSEAS REMITTANCES BIG REVENUE EARNER

Colombo SUN in English 27 Oct 82 p 1

[Article by Minoli de Soysa]

[Text]

Foreign exchange earnings in the form of remittances from Sri Lankans working abroad will reach over six billion rupees this year, Senior Deputy Governor of the Central Bank Dr. H. N. S. Karunatilake told 'SUN' yesterday.

This is likely to make it the country's biggest revenue earner, he added.

In 1981, private transfers reached the 4.2 billion rupee mark, an increase of 1.88 billion rupees over the 1980 figure.

According to the Central Bank's annual report for last year, the bulk of these remittances were from Sri Lankans working in West Asia, mainly Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, United Arab Emirates and Bahrain. A significant amount of remittances were also received from other countries including the United Kingdom, the United States and West Germany.

Export earnings from tea, meanwhile, were 6.44 billion rupees in 1981. However, this year, tea trade sources expect it to increase slightly due to higher prices for Sri Lankan tea and strengthening market conditions.

Therefore, foreign exchange remittances and tea will be fighting for first place as the country's major revenue earner this year.

However, it was pointed out that employment opportunities abroad, particularly in West Asia, were not unlimited. The employment market would soon reach saturation point because local people were being trained to do the jobs presently carried out by the expatriate workers.

Also, it was pointed out, due to declining oil prices, West Asian countries were not as wealthy as they used to be and may cut down on their number of expatriate workers.

CSO: 4200/106

NEIGHBORHOOD PATROLS IN NORTHERN PENINSULA

Colombo SUN in English 27 Oct 82 p 3

[Article by K. Arasaratnam]

[Text]

JAFFNA: More vigilance committees are to be set up in the northern peninsula by the police who are to seek public co-operation in the maintaining of law and order.

These committees are to be modelled on the lines of the American Neighbourhood Patrol. This scheme has been highly successful in the United States, particularly in minimising robberies, thefts in areas where these patrols operate.

The decision to increase the number of committees has been taken by the DIG Northern Range W.B. Rajaguru following the success of the existing ones. According to statistics forwarded the Malagan public relations and vigilance committee set up in the Chunnakam police area following the closure of nine police stations in the wake of the attack on Anaicottai had already helped settle 698 disputes.

In the same area, the Innaru PR, and VC had helped in 437 cases, a factor which had tremendously helped the police who were unable to respond to several minor complaints due to a number

of reasons including shortage of personnel and security reasons.

According to a police official, the fact that their depleted strength is tied up with court work, traffic duty, providing escorts and protecting the stations against attack had resulted in many stations not having officers free to do very much crime prevention work.

In view of this vigilance committees which will be given the fullest backing by the police are to function as semi-official peace keeping citizens committees.

Working on a purely voluntary basis they are to function in the evenings in areas where undesirable elements are found to be harassing persons and through the night as a deterrent to thieves and burglars.

The strategies of patrolling their areas will be worked out in conjunction with the police.

Meanwhile Police Chief Rudra Rajasingham told SUN that although the Security Council had taken up the question of re-opening the nine police stations after the Anaicottai attack no decision had however been taken as yet in this regard.

CSO: 4200/106

PRICE OF BREAD, FLOUR DOWN

Colombo DAILY NEWS in English 28 Oct 82 p 1

[Text]

A twenty cents reduction of the price of a loaf of bread effective from today was announced by the Food Department yesterday.

"The retail price of a kilo of flour is also down 70 cents from Rs. 6.65 to 5.95 with immediate effect. We have been able to procure wheat for local milling cheaper than before and we are passing on the saving to the consumer," a departmental spokesman said.

He added: "We could have announced these price reductions a few days ago, but we delayed it because we didn't want it to be interpreted as a measure intended to influence the election".

Instructions went out from the Food Department's Union Place

headquarters to Kachcheris and stores countrywide about the flour price reduction effective for deliveries from the department's stores and on both wholesale and retail markets.

The 70 cts. price reduction per kilo of flour applies to transactions at all levels.

The department added that the price of a 450 gram loaf was kept at Rs. 2.50 to give the bakers a better margin so that they could give the consumer a better loaf of bread.

"They are getting an added five cents margin. We hope they will use this to see that the consumer gets a decent loaf of bread," a departmental spokesman said.

CSO: 4200/106

FUEL EXPLORATION YET TO YIELD RETURNS FOR INVESTORS

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 Oct 82 p 7

[Article by Boonsong Kositchotethana]

[Text]

OIL exploration is a very risky business as Esso Exploration Inc will attest to. The company has spent US\$90 million in explorations costs for each of its two concession areas but has not yet got one cent as a return on its investment.

Mr George Grader, vice president and managing director of Esso's Thai affiliate, said that the public has a lot of misconceptions about oil exploration. And for each well drilled that brings oil, nine others are drilled that don't, he says.

Geology is a very imprecise science, he says, "and when you try to recapitulate geological advance going back millions of years, it can be very difficult. That's part of the problem."

Taking the case of the gas shortfall problems at the Erawan field (developed by the Union Oil Co of California), Mr Grader said the shortfall should not come as a shock because this thing can happen in the oil business.

"When you make reserve calculations in the beginning, you don't have the benefits of knowing the performance of well production. But once you start producing, then the field tells its own story."

Petroleum exploration is a capital incentive business. To operate a rig up in the Northeast, it costs the concessionaire about \$70,000-80,000 a day, he says.

Esso began petroleum exploration in Thailand in 1975, when Esso Exploration and Production Thailand was granted a concessionary right to explore for hydrocarbon in the Andaman Sea, in block No W. 9 where the depth is more than 200 metres. The concession covered a deepwater area of 30,000 square kilometres, south-

west of Phuket, and was relinquished to the Department of Mineral Resources early this year.

Esso's operations in the Andaman Sea required drilling in depths almost three times as high as the Empire State Building in New York. Five wells were drilled in depths of 1,914, 2,632, 2,052, 2,959 and 3,461 feet.

In drilling its fifth well (W9-E-1), EEPT broke the world record for deep-water drilling for petroleum at the depth of 3,461 feet and eventually went on to a total depth of 14,036 feet. It completed drilling five wells in November 1976 but found only some gas deposits.

The minimum cost commitment was for \$25.5 million and the drilling of five wells, but actual exploration expenditure exceeded this amount.

In March, 1979, Esso Exploration & Production Korat Inc, also a unit of Esso Exploration Inc of the US, was granted the concessions in the Northeast, a total of five blocks covering an area of 50,000 square kilometres in the central portion of the region, known as the Korat Plateau.

In June last year, Esso Udon Inc was awarded the concession covering the areas of several northeastern provinces including Udon, Nong Khai, Sakon Nakhon and Nakhon Phanom. Block EU 1 and EU 2 cover an area of 20,000 square kilometres.

So far the company has shot about 6,000 line miles of seismic over its two concession areas, 4,000 line miles in Korat and 2,000 in Udon, at a total cost of \$35 million.

"We have more than fulfilled those requirements set by the Department of Mineral Resources," says Mr Grader. The concessionary obliga-

tions are for the firm to shoot 4,000 line miles in Korat concession and 1,000 in Udon.

Seismic is a technique used to determine the detailed structure of the rocks underlying a particular area by passing acoustic shock waves into the strata and detecting and measuring the reflected signals.

In March 1981, Esso brought in a drilling rig for work in its wildcat well in Nam Phong, about 27 kilometres to the north of Khon Kaen. The well was spudded two weeks later and took 11 months to complete the drilling and test at an unexpected cost of \$20 million, said Mr Grader.

He said this is uncomparable to drilling a well in the Gulf of Thailand which normally takes about 30-40 days to complete.

"Esso drills on a totally different basin of 'Permian' whose rocks have higher than normal pressure which created a lot of drilling problems, and what we have found is that it takes a longer time than originally anticipated."

According to the geological time scale, the "Permian" rocks are between 225 million and 280 million years old. Gas-bearing rocks in the Gulf or oil-holding structures in the North are dated to the "Miocene" period, which is about 7-26 million years ago.

Asked whether Esso would produce natural gas from its Nam Phong well, Mr Grader said he could not make a definite statement on this. "There is no way to determine if Nam Phong is commercially viable. We have one well which flowed at the rate of 27.6 million cubic feet per day out of the zone between 10,220 and 10,254 feet during the test.

"We don't know how long that well will produce for — one month or two months, one year or ten years? You cannot say, until we drill a 'step out well,' (a well drilled beyond the proven limits of a field to investigate a possible extension to that field).

After completing its marathon drilling in Nam Phong, Esso then moved its rig to Chonnabot, 100 kilometres southwest of Nam Phong, and tested a different structure. The well was spudded last February.

Here, Esso encountered the same problem of abnormal pressure which created a great deal of drilling problems. There were a few gas shows, mainly in the tight rocks — rocks which could not give up the gas. The gas was under great pressure, said Mr Grader.

Esso engineer and the company's

drilling contractor, Parker, spent last August trying to control the well. However, their efforts were in vain and Esso had to temporarily abandon the well at a depth of 11,814 feet. The well was programmed to a depth of about 12,000 feet.

Again the Chonnabot well took a longer time and costs were higher than expected. "It took us seven months and \$14 million to drill," said Mr Grader.

The company has moved the rig to Kaset Sombun in Chaiyaphum, the extreme western part of Esso's Korat concession, where the third wildcat well is to be sunk.

"We're hopeful we can drill this well in two months, but given our drilling history and problems we have in the first two wells, we've got to be cautious," Mr Grader added.

He said the company wants to go back to Chonnabot because of very encouraging gas shows in the well. "It is not a major discovery, but we have encouragement and will come back with a bigger and more powerful rig that can handle the pressure. We will try to complete the well to the targeted depth. However, we will not be able to do that before 1983, he explained.

He has recommended the parent firm to bring in a new rig in early 1983 to re-enter Chonnabot, but this will need approval from Esso's New York headquarters.

After completing the Kaset Sombun well hopefully in mid-December this year, the same rig will move to the Udon concession area where three wells will be drilled before June 1984. Kaset Sombun well was programmed to a depth of 7,000 feet.

The first wildcat well in Udon is located about 30 kilometres southwest of Udon Thani in the Poohom area. The next two wells follow locations yet to be worked out. "Once we see these drilling results, we will then talk about future programme" said Mr Grader.

Regarding the possibility of developing natural gas in Nam Phong, he said the firm does not intend to go back to develop Nam Phong until late 1984 or 1985 since it has exploration plans to fulfil.

"If we make discoveries along the way, there will be some delays before we can get back to evaluate that well. And we can't determine any commerciality of the well until we drill at least two more step-out wells."

'Confident'

Just how much gas is needed to make Nam Phong worth developing? Mr Grader says he can't give any specific answer, "but I'm confident we will produce Nam Phong gas at least for local consumption, i.e. power generation, paper factories and mills."

While the general public believes that onshore gas will be cheaper than Gulf gas, the managing director says "Nam Phong gas is not cheap, but quite expensive, probably as expensive as being produced in the Gulf of Thailand. Look at Nam Phong, the cost of drilling a well up there is 10 times more than it costs in a well drilled in the Gulf or the central low land" (by Thai Shell Exploration and Production)

A geologist with 30 years in the oil exploration business including extensive assignments in Africa, South America and Europe, Mr Grader said he is "hopeful" about Thailand's petroleum prospecting future.

"I think the Thais can be encouraged by what they found. It's foolish to talk about anything like what's been found in the Persian Gulf. There is limitation on the size of basins here."

Asked if Thailand can be a pe-

troleum exporter, Mr Grader said there will be enough gas in the Gulf to set up a liquefied natural gas (LNG) export project. "I'm very hopeful, mind you, that we will be able to add to the gas reserves in the Northeast."

"We should be grateful for anything we find and shouldn't be leading the public to believe that we have great gas reserves in the country. I don't think there will be huge deposits, but rather useful deposits which can be utilised beneficially by Thailand," he added.

Confirming the general belief in the industry that Esso, the world's largest petroleum concern, is keen to explore for oil than gas, Mr Grader explains that the firm would prefer to find liquid because it knows its stand as stipulated in the Petroleum Act, i.e. a gas sale agreement has to be negotiated first but with liquid it can realise the market prices in a much easier manner.

"We're still hopeful we will find oil in the Northeast, perhaps on further fields."

Concerning the possible operating problems beyond drillings, he notes that Esso receives full support from DMR, government agencies and "country people up there were very cooperative, helpful and reasonable."

"This is a fine tribute to the Northeast. I, for one am very pleased with the operating circumstances in Thailand," he concluded.

CSO: 4200/118

TRADE WITH KOREAS NOTED

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Oct 82 p 24

[Text] North Korea to Double Rubber Purchase

NORTH KOREA has agreed to double its purchase of rubber, with further targets set for rice, sugar and bartering of goods. Thailand has been asked to appoint a commercial counsellor in Pyongyang at the same time.

This was disclosed yesterday by Deputy Commerce Minister Prapas Limprapan who returned on Sunday from Pyongyang on a good-will trade mission since Sept 26.

The delegation also comprised representatives from the Board of Trade and Centre for Sugar Distribution.

The deputy minister said that North Korean officials displayed interest in buying more Thai products.

"In particular, North Korea wants to increase its purchase of rubber from 1,500 to 3,000 tons per month. So far, a contract has been signed for 1,500 tons," he said.

Prapas said that North Korea also is interested in buying Thai parboiled rice in the tune of 50,000 tons, with 30,000 tons being delivered immediately. Thailand will also sell 20,000 tons of sugar to North Korea.

"We have given them our quotations on

these two items," he said.

The deputy minister said that other commodities that North Koreans want to buy from Thailand include cotton, cotton-made goods, garments, cigarettes filters and tyres.

North Korea will also barter about 5,000 tons of caustic soda with Thailand's 300 tons of palm oil, with delivery scheduled for this month.

"I have told the North Korean officials that our private sector will handle all these transactions," he said.

The deputy minister said Thailand did not commit herself to complying with the North Korean request to appoint a commercial counsellor to Pyongyang on grounds that the volume of trade between the two countries is not large enough to justify such a move.

The Thai Embassy in Peking will concurrently handle trade affairs with North Korea.

North Korea also proposed the setting of targets for trade in various categories. But the Thai response was non-committal.

The North Koreans also invited Deputy Premier Thongyod Chittavira to visit North Korea.

Expanded Trade with South Korea

THAILAND and South Korea plan to expand trading relations further following a six-fold increase during 1976-81, with next year's target set at about \$500 million, according to a senior Commerce Ministry official.

Mr Pracha Charutrakulchai, who has just returned from Seoul as commercial counsellor there, said that trading between Thailand and South Korea had expanded at a satisfactory rate.

"In 1976, transactions on both sides amounted to \$50 million, with Thailand suffering from a trade deficit. But in 1981, the trading volume between the two countries went up six times compared to that in 1976," he

said.

The total trading volume in 1981 was recorded at \$300 million, with Thailand enjoying a trade surplus over South Korea by \$59 million.

"That was due mainly to the fact that we sold 120,000 tons of glutinous rice to South Korea following a drop in Seoul's own rice harvest," he said.

Pracha said that during the first seven months of this year, Thailand has a trade surplus of \$5.3 million. "That was caused by the fact that Seoul did not buy glutinous rice this year from us. However, South Korea

has been buying maize, raw sugar, molasses, canned pineapple, electrical panels and jute yarns," he said.

South Korea bought a total of 94,000 tons of raw sugar in the first seven months of this year, compared to the same period of last year when 80,000 tons were sold to Seoul.

During the same period, South Korea, bought 64,000 tons of tapioca, 60,000 tons of rice, 7,400 tons of rubber and Pracha believes that South Korea will continue to buy more rubber from Thailand.

Thailand and South Korea have agreed to exchange 55,000 tons of fertilizer with 88,000 tons of tapioca from Thailand at the value of \$10 million. The fertilizer has been delivered to Thailand since September.

Next year, the joint trading overall target has been set at \$500 million for the two countries with Thailand selling a variety of agricultural products and in return will buy industrial goods such as steel, fertilizer, electrical goods and construction equipment from that country.

Deputy Undersecretary of State for Commerce Chalaw Fueng-arom said the South Korean Government had presented a plaque to Pracha for his efforts to promote trade between the two countries.

CSO: 4200/118

THAILAND

BRIEFS

MIGRANT FARMERS CANNOT SUPPORT FAMILIES--MOST farmers who come to Bangkok each year to work are unable to send money home to support their families in the provinces because they only earn enough to cover daily expenses. According to a survey published recently in the Journal of the Office of the National social and Economic Development Board only a few send money home but the amount is never more than 500 baht a month. The journal reported that rural poverty drives 120,000 farmers to Bangkok each year in search of work, of whom about 60 per cent never send money home. Some of the remainder are able to send money home but it is never more than 500 baht at a time, the journal reported. A majority of the migrants, 43.8 per cent, come from the Northeast. Figures for other regions were 34.3 per cent from the Central Plains, 13.9 per cent from the North and 8.2 per cent from the South. The journal reported that most farmers stay in Bangkok only temporarily, earning just enough to cover their daily expenses. [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Oct 82 p 2]

CSO: 4200/118

END